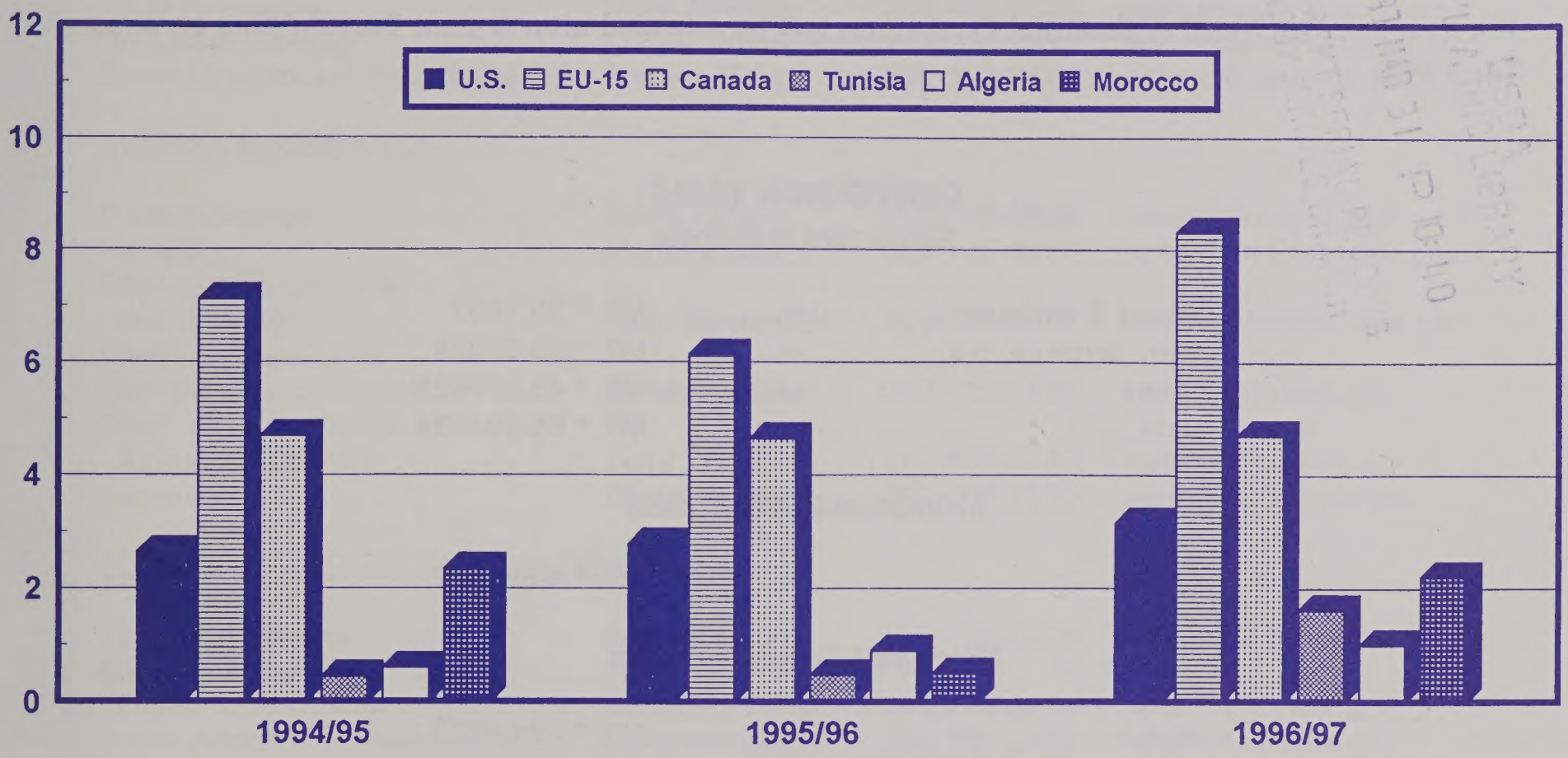
United States Department of Agriculture

Foreign Agricultural Service

Circular Series
WAP 03-97
March 1997

World Agricultural Production

Durum Wheat Production in Selected Countries
(Million metric tons)



Production Articles This Month ...

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board / USDA

This report draws on information from USDA's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors, official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, and results of office analysis. Estimates of U.S. acreage, yield, and production are from the USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board, except where noted. This report is based on unrounded data; numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-324, March 11, 1997.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division (PECAD), FAS/USDA, AgBox 1045, Washington, D.C. 20250-1045. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division, by calling (202) 720-0888, or by FAX (202) 720-8880.

The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3 p.m. Eastern time on April 14, 1997.

CONVERSION TABLE

Metric tons to bushels

Wheat & soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438

Metric tons to 480-lb bales

Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917

Metric tons to hundredweight

Rice	=	MT * 22.04622

Area & Weight

1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1 kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

For Information Contact:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service
Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division
Room 6053, South Building
Washington D.C. 20250
Telephone: (202) 720-0888
Fax: (202) 720-8880

CIRCULAR PUBLICATION

		Phone	E-mail
Circular Coordinator	Allen Vandergriff	202-720-0865	vandergriff@fas.usda.gov
Word Processing	Mary Jackson	202-720-0888	jacksonma@fas.usda.gov
Data Base Manager	Marnet Whittington	202-720-0886	whittington@fas.usda.gov
Cover Graphics and Data Reliability	Theresa Wright	202-720-8887	wrightt@fas.usda.gov

GENERAL INFORMATION

Division Director	Edwin I Cissel	202-720-0888	cissel@fas.usda.gov
Secretary	Mary Jackson	202-720-0888	jacksonma@fas.usda.gov
Chief - Grain, Oilseeds, and Cotton Branch	Allen Vandergriff	202-720-0865	vandergriff@fas.usda.gov
Chief - Livestock and Specialty Crops Branch	Bernadine Baker	202-720-0868	baker@fas.usda.gov
Chief - Crop Condition Assessment Branch	Terry Taylor	202-690-0130	taylort@fas.usda.gov
Secretary	Cheryl Woerner	202-690-0130	woerner@fas.usda.gov

COMMODITY SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Cotton Chairperson	Ron Roberson	202-720-0879	roberson@fas.usda.gov
Dairy, Livestock, and Poultry Chairperson*	Bernadine Baker	202-720-0868	baker@fas.usda.gov
Forest Products Chairperson*	Bernadine Baker	202-720-0868	baker@fas.usda.gov
Grain Chairperson	Timothy Rocke	202-720-1572	rocke@fas.usda.gov
Horticulture Chairperson	Kelly Strzelecki	202-720-6791	strzelecki@fas.usda.gov
Oilseeds Chairperson	Rodney Paschal	202-720-0881	paschal@fas.usda.gov
Sugar and Tropical Products Chairperson	Frank Hokana	202-720-0875	hokana@fas.usda.gov
Tobacco, Livestock, and Poultry	Arthur Hausamann	202-720-8883	hausamann@fas.usda.gov

COUNTRY AND REGION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay	Robert Tetrault	202-690-0140	tetrault@fas.usda.gov
Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay	Brenda Pressnall	202-690-0139	pressnall@fas.usda.gov
Canada, Southeast Asia, and Europe	Paul Provance	202-720-0882	provance@fas.usda.gov
China, Koreas, Japan, and S. Africa	Paulette Sandene	202-690-0133	sandene@fas.usda.gov
Former Soviet Union, Bangladesh, and India	Mark Lindeman	202-690-0143	lindeman@fas.usda.gov
Mexico and United States	Ron White	202-690-0137	whiter@fas.usda.gov
Pakistan, Australia, and United States	John Turner	202-690-0138	turnerj@fas.usda.gov
United States and Int'l Weather	Carl Gernazio	202-690-0136	gernazio@fas.usda.gov
Remote Sensing Specialist	Pat Ashburn	202-690-0134	ashburn@fas.usda.gov

* Acting

TABLE OF CONTENTS

March 1997

SUBJECT PAGE

MAPS

WEATHER BRIEFS

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

FEATURE TABLES

SUBJECT PAGE

FEATURE CHARTS

PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1996/97

March 1997

WHEAT

Country	1996/97 Current Estimate MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
World	581.5	+0.4	+0	+8	Production is estimated higher this month due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	62.1	NC	NC	+5	Production is unchanged.
Total Foreign	519.4	+0.4	+0	+9	Production is estimated higher this month as increases in Australia, Chile, and Uruguay more than offset a slight decrease in the European Union.
Australia	23.5	+0.4	+2	+38	Production is estimated at a record level based on an ABARE report that increased yield.
Chile	1.5	+0.1	+10	+39	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in area and record yield.
Uruguay	0.6	+0.1	+26	+50	Production is estimated higher due to record yield.
European Union	99.3	-0.2	-0	+15	Production is estimated lower as a decline in Italy's output more than offset slight increases in France, Germany, and Netherlands.

COARSE GRAINS

Country	1996/97 Current Estimate MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
World	887.7	-0.6	-0	+11	Production is estimated lower due to a decline in the total foreign category.
United States	267.6	NC	NC	+28	Production is unchanged.
Total Foreign	620.2	-0.6	-0	+5	Production is estimated lower mainly due to decreases in India and South Africa which more than offset increases in the European Union, Argentina, and Australia.
India	32.3	-1.4	-4	+9	Production is estimated lower for corn, sorghum, and millet due to decreases in area.
South Africa	9.1	-1.0	-10	-17	Production is forecast lower as periods of hot, dry weather in parts of the Maize Triangle reduced yield potential.

COARSE GRAINS, continued

Country	1996/97 Current Estimate MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
Yugoslavia	9.0	-0.2	-2	-2	Production is estimated lower due to reduced yield in Serbia.
European Union	104.0	+1.2	+1	+18	Production is estimated higher mainly due to increases in corn output for Italy, Germany, and France.
Argentina	17.9	+0.4	+2	+27	Production is forecast higher as plantings of sorghum for grain were higher than expected.
Australia	9.1	+0.2	+2	-3	Production is forecast higher due to an ABARE report increasing sorghum, barley, and oat output.

RICE (MILLED BASIS)

Country	1996/97 Current Estimate MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
World	374.9	-2.4	-1	+1	Production is estimated lower due to a decline in the total foreign category.
United States	5.6	NC	NC	-1	Production is unchanged.
Total Foreign	369.3	-2.4	-1	+1	Production is estimated lower mainly due to decreases in Burma, India, and Thailand.
Burma	9.3	-1.1	-11	-7	Production is estimated lower based on field travel and official sources indicating that the wet-season rice had reduced yield due to input, weather, and pest problems.
India	80.0	-1.0	-1	+1	Production is estimated lower as harvest results indicate reduced yield.
Thailand	13.9	-0.5	-3	-3	Production is estimated lower based on field travel from the U.S. agricultural counselor's office in Bangkok and reports that dryness in the Northeast, excessive rainfall during flowering, and flooding in the Central Plains reduced yield for the main-season crop.
Philippines	7.5	+0.2	+3	+3	Production is estimated at a record due to an increase in area and improved yield performance.

OILSEEDS

Country	1996/97 Current Forecast MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
World	259.1	+1.8	+1	+1	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	74.9	NC	NC	+8	Production is unchanged.
Total Foreign	184.2	+1.8	+1	-2	Production is estimated higher due to increases for China, Brazil, India, and Paraguay which more than offset a decline for South Africa.
China	39.7	+0.7	+2	-8	Production is estimated higher based on increased estimates for rapeseed area and yield as well as an increase in soybean yield. The estimate for sunflowerseed output was lowered due to a reduction in yield.
Brazil	27.7	+0.5	+2	+13	Production is estimated higher based on improved soybean yields in the CenterWest despite indications of less area in the CenterSouth.
India	25.1	+0.4	+2	+1	Production is estimated higher due to increased area and yield for rapeseed and an upward revision of cottonseed area.
Paraguay	2.9	+0.2	+7	+8	Production is estimated higher due to favorable weather which increased soybean yield.
South Africa	0.8	-0.2	-16	-31	Production is estimated lower based on a National Crop Estimating Committee report indicating lower sunflower and peanut area which more than offset increased soybean area.

PALM OIL

Country	1996/97 Current Forecast MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change MMT	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
World	16.6	+0.0	+0	+6	Production is changed only fractionally this month due to a slight increase for Guatemala which more than offset a lower estimate for Colombia.

COTTON

Country	1996/97 Current Estimate MBALES	1996/97 Monthly Change MBALES	1996/97 Monthly Change (%)	Change From 1995/96 (%)	Comments
World Total	86.3	+0.1	+0	-6	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	19.0	NC	NC	+6	Production is unchanged.
Total Foreign	67.4	+0.1	+0	-9	Production is forecast slightly higher due to increases in India and Pakistan which more than offset reductions in Greece and Australia.
India	12.5	+0.2	+2	-1	Production is forecast higher due to upward revisions in area and yield.
Pakistan	7.0	+0.2	+3	-15	Production is forecast higher due to improved yield. Insect infestations last fall had a less-than-expected effect on yield.
Greece	1.4	-0.1	-8	-32	Production is forecast lower based upon data from the Hellenic Cotton Board.
Australia	2.5	-0.1	-4	+30	Production is forecast lower due to cool temperatures and rainy conditions during early February throughout the main cotton producing areas.

TABLE 1

U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield				Production			
		Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	Proj.		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.	
	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.
	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--				--Million bushels--			
All Wheat	70.3	69.1	75.6	61.8	60.9	62.9	37.6	35.8	36.3	36.3	2,321	2,183	2,282	2,282
Winter	49.2	48.7	52.0	41.4	41.0	39.7	40.2	37.7	37.2	37.2	1,662	1,545	1,478	1,478
Other	21.1	20.4	23.6	20.4	19.9	23.2	32.3	32.1	34.7	34.7	659	638	804	804
Soybeans	61.7	62.6	64.2	60.9	61.6	63.4	41.4	35.3	37.6	37.6	2,517	2,177	2,382	2,382
Corn	79.2	71.2	79.5	72.9	65.0	73.1	138.6	113.5	127.1	127.1	10,103	7,374	9,293	9,293
Sorghum	9.8	9.5	13.2	8.9	8.3	11.9	72.8	55.6	67.5	67.5	649	460	803	803
Barley	7.2	6.7	7.2	6.7	6.3	6.8	56.2	57.3	58.5	58.5	375	360	397	397
Oats	6.6	6.3	4.7	4.0	3.0	2.7	57.1	54.7	57.8	57.8	229	162	155	155
							--Pounds per acre--				--Million CWT--			
Rice	3.4	3.1	2.8	3.3	3.1	2.8	5,964	5,621	6,121	6,121	197.8	173.9	171.3	171.3
											--Million 480-pound bales--			
All Cotton	13.7	16.9	14.7	13.3	16.0	12.8	708	537	709	709	19.7	17.9	19.0	19.0

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 2
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America			Europe			FSU-12	Asia					South America		Selected Other			All Others
			United States	Canada	Mexico	European Union	Oth. W. Europe	Eastern Europe		China	India	Indo-nesia	Paki-stan	Thai-land	Argen-tina	Brazil	Aus-tralia	South Africa	Turkey	
	---Million metric tons---																			
Wheat																				
1994/95	524.6	461.4	63.2	23.1	3.5	84.5	0.8	34.0	59.9	99.3	59.8	0.0	15.2	0.0	11.3	2.2	8.9	1.8	14.7	42.4
1995/96 prel.	536.9	477.5	59.4	25.0	3.5	86.2	1.3	35.0	58.9	102.2	65.5	0.0	17.0	0.0	9.2	1.5	17.0	2.0	15.5	37.8
1996/97 proj.																				
Feb.	581.0	518.9	62.1	30.5	3.2	99.5	2.2	26.5	63.0	109.0	62.6	0.0	16.9	0.0	15.5	3.2	23.1	2.8	16.5	44.6
Mar.	581.5	519.4	62.1	30.5	3.2	99.3	2.2	26.5	63.0	109.0	62.6	0.0	16.9	0.0	15.5	3.2	23.5	2.7	16.5	44.8
Coarse Grains																				
1994/95	871.0	586.1	284.9	23.4	20.6	86.5	2.4	46.9	79.2	114.3	30.1	6.1	1.9	4.0	13.9	38.2	5.4	5.4	8.9	99.0
1995/96 prel.	799.3	589.9	209.4	24.1	23.8	88.2	2.9	52.0	57.5	124.5	29.7	6.0	1.8	3.9	14.1	33.2	9.4	11.0	11.0	96.6
1996/97 proj.																				
Feb.	888.3	620.8	267.6	28.4	25.5	102.8	3.7	49.6	52.6	130.4	33.6	6.6	1.9	4.2	17.5	34.8	8.9	10.1	10.4	99.8
Mar.	887.7	620.2	267.6	28.4	25.5	104.0	3.7	49.4	52.6	130.4	32.3	6.6	1.9	4.2	17.9	34.8	9.1	9.1	10.4	100.0
Rice (Milled)																				
1994/95	365.3	358.6	6.6	0.0	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.0	123.2	81.2	32.3	3.4	14.1	0.6	7.4	0.8	0.0	0.2	92.8
1995/96 prel.	370.8	365.1	5.6	0.0	0.2	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.9	129.7	79.5	32.7	3.9	14.4	0.6	6.8	0.7	0.0	0.2	92.9
1996/97 proj.																				
Feb.	377.3	371.7	5.6	0.0	0.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.9	132.0	81.0	33.5	4.3	14.4	0.7	6.2	1.0	0.0	0.3	95.6
Mar.	374.9	369.3	5.6	0.0	0.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.9	132.0	80.0	33.5	4.3	13.9	0.7	6.2	1.1	0.0	0.3	94.7
Total Grains 1/																				
1994/95	1760.8	1406.1	354.7	46.5	24.3	172.3	3.2	80.9	140.1	336.7	171.1	38.4	20.5	18.1	25.8	47.8	15.1	7.2	23.7	234.2
1995/96 prel.	1707.0	1432.5	274.5	49.2	27.5	176.9	4.2	87.1	117.4	356.4	174.6	38.7	22.8	18.3	23.9	41.6	27.0	12.9	26.7	227.4
1996/97 proj.																				
Feb.	1846.6	1511.4	335.3	58.9	28.9	203.9	5.9	76.1	116.5	371.4	177.2	40.1	23.0	18.6	33.7	27.0	33.0	12.8	27.2	257.2
Mar.	1844.1	1508.8	335.3	58.9	28.9	204.9	5.9	75.9	116.5	371.4	174.9	40.1	23.0	18.1	34.1	24.5	33.6	11.8	27.2	259.2
Oilseeds 2/																				
1994/95	260.9	181.2	79.7	9.6	0.8	12.7	0.1	4.1	8.7	42.2	23.2	2.8	3.2	0.6	19.4	27.0	1.0	0.7	1.7	23.5
1995/96 prel.	256.5	187.4	69.1	8.8	0.6	13.2	0.1	5.3	11.3	43.2	24.8	2.6	4.0	0.6	19.3	24.5	1.4	1.1	2.2	24.5
1996/97 proj.																				
Feb.	257.2	182.3	74.9	7.3	0.7	13.0	0.1	4.7	8.7	39.0	24.8	2.6	3.4	0.6	20.0	27.2	1.7	0.9	2.0	25.8
Mar.	259.1	184.2	74.9	7.3	0.7	12.9	0.1	4.7	8.7	39.7	25.1	2.6	3.5	0.6	20.0	27.7	1.7	0.8	2.0	26.2
Cotton																				
1994/95	85.5	65.9	19.7	0.0	0.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	19.9	10.8	0.0	6.3	0.0	1.6	2.5	1.5	0.1	2.9	9.0
1995/96 prel.	92.2	74.3	17.9	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	8.3	21.9	12.6	0.0	8.2	0.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	0.2	3.9	10.3
1996/97 proj.																				
Feb.	86.2	67.3	19.0	0.0	1.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	6.6	17.5	12.3	0.0	6.8	0.0	1.9	1.4	2.6	0.2	3.7	11.2
Mar.	86.3	67.4	19.0	0.0	1.2	1.9	0.0	0.0	6.6	17.5	12.5	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.9	1.4	2.5	0.2	3.7	11.0

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.
2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.
Note: Entries of 0.0 indicate no reported or insignificant production.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 3

Wheat Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	215.19	219.55	229.97	229.75	2.44	2.45	2.53	2.53	524.58	536.92	581.04	581.46	0.42	0.07	44.53	8.29
United States	25.00	24.66	25.44	25.44	2.53	2.41	2.44	2.44	63.17	59.40	62.10	62.10	0.00	0.00	2.70	4.54
Total Foreign	190.19	194.89	204.54	204.32	2.43	2.45	2.54	2.54	461.41	477.52	518.94	519.36	0.42	0.08	41.84	8.76
Major Exporters	39.73	41.80	47.48	47.26	3.22	3.29	3.55	3.57	127.87	137.38	168.56	168.81	0.25	0.15	31.43	22.87
European Union	15.79	16.15	17.03	16.91	5.36	5.33	5.84	5.87	84.54	86.17	99.46	99.31	-0.15	-0.16	13.14	15.25
France	4.58	4.75	5.03	5.02	6.67	6.50	7.12	7.14	30.55	30.86	35.80	35.86	0.06	0.16	4.99	16.18
United Kingdom	1.81	1.86	1.97	1.97	7.35	7.70	8.14	8.14	13.31	14.31	16.04	16.04	0.00	0.00	1.73	12.09
Germany	2.44	2.58	2.60	2.59	6.77	6.89	7.27	7.29	16.48	17.76	18.90	18.92	0.02	0.12	1.16	6.52
Canada	10.84	11.14	12.65	12.65	2.13	2.25	2.41	2.41	23.12	25.04	30.50	30.50	0.00	0.00	5.46	21.82
Australia	8.00	9.72	11.10	11.00	1.11	1.75	2.08	2.14	8.90	16.98	23.10	23.50	0.40	1.73	6.53	38.44
Argentina	5.10	4.78	6.70	6.70	2.22	1.92	2.31	2.31	11.30	9.20	15.50	15.50	0.00	0.00	6.30	68.48
Major Importers	86.83	88.03	92.06	92.06	2.37	2.33	2.33	2.33	205.78	204.74	214.09	214.09	0.00	0.00	9.35	4.57
China	28.98	28.86	29.50	29.50	3.43	3.54	3.69	3.69	99.30	102.22	109.00	109.00	0.00	0.00	6.79	6.64
FSU-12	42.22	45.31	47.31	47.31	1.42	1.30	1.33	1.33	59.90	58.92	62.95	62.95	0.00	0.00	4.03	6.83
Russia	22.18	23.91	25.00	25.00	1.45	1.26	1.40	1.40	32.10	30.10	34.90	34.90	0.00	0.00	4.80	15.95
Ukraine	4.51	5.48	6.25	6.25	3.07	2.97	2.16	2.16	13.86	16.27	13.50	13.50	0.00	0.00	-2.77	-17.04
Kazakstan	12.62	12.55	12.20	12.20	0.72	0.52	0.63	0.63	9.05	6.49	7.70	7.70	0.00	0.00	1.21	18.64
Baltic States	0.41	0.45	0.50	0.50	1.97	1.95	2.36	2.36	0.81	0.87	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.00	0.30	34.29
Eastern Europe	10.07	9.71	8.73	8.73	3.37	3.60	3.03	3.03	33.96	34.99	26.47	26.47	0.00	0.00	-8.52	-24.35
Poland	2.41	2.41	2.46	2.46	3.18	3.60	3.46	3.46	7.66	8.66	8.51	8.51	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-1.72
Romania	2.42	2.42	1.80	1.80	2.56	3.18	1.78	1.78	6.19	7.70	3.20	3.20	0.00	0.00	-4.50	-58.44
Egypt	0.73	0.97	1.00	1.00	5.62	5.28	5.40	5.40	4.10	5.10	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.30	5.88
Morocco	3.05	1.70	3.22	3.22	1.81	0.65	1.83	1.83	5.52	1.10	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.00	4.80	436.36
Brazil	1.37	1.03	1.80	1.80	1.60	1.49	1.78	1.78	2.19	1.54	3.20	3.20	0.00	0.00	1.66	107.79
Other Foreign	63.64	65.06	65.00	65.01	2.01	2.08	2.10	2.10	127.77	135.40	136.29	136.46	0.17	0.13	1.06	0.78
India	25.10	25.60	25.10	25.10	2.38	2.56	2.49	2.49	59.84	65.47	62.62	62.62	0.00	0.00	-2.85	-4.35
Turkey	8.60	8.55	8.45	8.45	1.71	1.81	1.95	1.95	14.70	15.50	16.50	16.50	0.00	0.00	1.00	6.45
Pakistan	8.03	8.17	8.38	8.38	1.89	2.08	2.02	2.02	15.21	17.00	16.91	16.91	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-0.56
Mexico	0.97	0.87	0.80	0.80	4.30	3.98	4.00	4.00	4.15	3.46	3.20	3.20	0.00	0.00	-0.26	-7.51
Saudi Arabia	0.60	0.47	0.27	0.27	4.47	4.30	4.53	4.53	2.68	2.00	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.80	-40.00
South Africa	1.04	1.36	1.30	1.29	1.77	1.43	2.12	2.09	1.83	1.95	2.75	2.70	-0.05	-1.82	0.75	38.46
Others	19.31	20.04	20.71	20.72	1.52	1.50	1.60	1.61	29.35	30.02	33.11	33.34	0.22	0.68	3.31	11.04

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 4

Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	321.10	310.14	318.04	316.37	2.71	2.58	2.79	2.81	870.95	799.29	888.34	887.74	-0.60	-0.07	88.45	11.07
United States	37.59	33.55	38.39	38.39	7.58	6.24	6.97	6.97	284.89	209.44	267.58	267.58	0.00	0.00	58.15	27.76
Total Foreign	283.51	276.59	279.65	277.97	2.07	2.13	2.22	2.23	586.06	589.85	620.76	620.16	-0.60	-0.10	30.30	5.14
Major Exporters	19.98	21.70	22.97	23.09	2.61	2.88	3.00	2.97	52.06	62.46	68.99	68.57	-0.42	-0.61	6.11	9.78
Canada	6.96	6.97	8.03	8.03	3.36	3.46	3.53	3.53	23.39	24.12	28.36	28.36	0.00	0.00	4.23	17.56
Argentina	3.56	3.95	4.42	4.52	3.89	3.57	3.95	3.95	13.86	14.09	17.46	17.86	0.40	2.29	3.77	26.77
Australia	4.17	5.17	4.79	4.81	1.30	1.81	1.85	1.89	5.41	9.36	8.89	9.07	0.18	2.03	-0.30	-3.17
South Africa	3.94	4.32	4.37	4.38	1.37	2.54	2.31	2.07	5.40	10.99	10.09	9.09	-1.00	-9.91	-1.90	-17.28
Thailand	1.36	1.30	1.36	1.36	2.94	3.00	3.09	3.09	4.00	3.90	4.20	4.20	0.00	0.00	0.30	7.69
Major Importers	95.62	90.05	87.11	87.07	2.48	2.50	2.70	2.71	237.21	225.39	234.99	235.95	0.96	0.41	10.57	4.69
FSU-12	48.93	43.80	39.07	39.07	1.62	1.31	1.35	1.35	79.23	57.54	52.64	52.64	0.00	0.00	-4.91	-8.52
Russia	30.15	27.21	24.95	24.95	1.50	1.13	1.27	1.27	45.10	30.70	31.80	31.80	0.00	0.00	1.10	3.58
Ukraine	7.00	6.90	5.83	5.83	2.65	2.26	1.63	1.63	18.53	15.61	9.50	9.50	0.00	0.00	-6.11	-39.13
Kazakstan	7.67	5.81	4.55	4.55	0.89	0.51	0.71	0.71	6.86	2.99	3.23	3.23	0.00	0.00	0.25	8.21
Baltic States	1.51	1.30	1.21	1.21	1.73	1.66	2.20	2.20	2.60	2.15	2.67	2.67	0.00	0.00	0.52	24.29
European Union	18.70	18.44	19.74	19.71	4.62	4.78	5.21	5.28	86.46	88.22	102.84	104.01	1.18	1.14	15.80	17.91
Germany	3.80	3.95	4.14	4.11	5.22	5.60	5.52	5.64	19.85	22.10	22.85	23.21	0.36	1.59	1.11	5.04
France	3.47	3.42	3.66	3.65	6.40	6.41	6.96	7.04	22.17	21.92	25.43	25.70	0.27	1.06	3.78	17.25
Eastern Europe	16.74	16.31	16.21	16.21	2.80	3.19	3.06	3.05	46.85	52.04	49.59	49.38	-0.21	-0.43	-2.66	-5.10
Poland	6.08	6.17	6.17	6.16	2.32	2.79	2.68	2.68	14.12	17.24	16.50	16.49	-0.01	-0.09	-0.76	-4.40
Romania	4.12	3.96	4.05	4.05	2.58	3.05	2.73	2.73	10.64	12.08	11.05	11.05	0.00	0.00	-1.03	-8.55
Czech Rep.	0.86	0.72	0.81	0.81	3.72	3.73	3.55	3.55	3.21	2.70	2.86	2.86	0.00	0.00	0.15	5.66
Mexico	9.37	9.83	10.50	10.50	2.20	2.43	2.43	2.43	20.61	23.85	25.50	25.50	0.00	0.00	1.65	6.93
Other W. Europe	0.39	0.38	0.37	0.37	3.80	4.24	4.72	4.72	1.47	1.60	1.75	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.16	9.97
Other Foreign	167.91	164.83	169.57	167.81	1.77	1.83	1.87	1.88	296.80	302.01	316.78	315.64	-1.14	-0.36	13.63	4.51
China	26.09	27.33	27.94	28.04	4.38	4.56	4.67	4.65	114.29	124.50	130.35	130.35	0.00	0.00	5.85	4.70
India	34.19	31.48	34.10	32.18	0.88	0.94	0.99	1.00	30.08	29.69	33.60	32.25	-1.35	-4.02	2.56	8.62
Brazil	14.74	14.33	14.61	14.61	2.59	2.32	2.38	2.38	38.22	33.24	34.83	34.83	0.00	0.00	1.59	4.80
Turkey	4.41	4.47	4.78	4.78	2.01	2.09	2.18	2.18	8.88	9.36	10.43	10.43	0.00	0.00	1.07	11.43
Indonesia	3.65	3.53	3.55	3.55	1.67	1.70	1.86	1.86	6.10	6.00	6.60	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.60	10.00
Philippines	2.97	2.76	2.70	2.70	1.53	1.57	1.59	1.59	4.53	4.32	4.30	4.30	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.56
Others	81.86	80.93	81.90	81.96	1.16	1.17	1.18	1.18	94.71	94.90	96.67	96.88	0.21	0.22	1.98	2.09

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 5
Corn Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	134.92	134.14	139.57	139.59	4.16	3.84	4.13	4.12	561.09	515.45	576.04	575.63	-0.41	-0.07	60.18	11.68
United States	29.50	26.30	29.60	29.60	8.70	7.12	7.97	7.97	256.62	187.31	236.06	236.06	0.00	0.00	48.76	26.03
Total Foreign	105.42	107.83	109.97	109.98	2.89	3.04	3.09	3.09	304.46	328.14	339.98	339.57	-0.41	-0.12	11.43	3.48
Major Exporters	6.70	7.14	7.90	7.90	2.98	3.50	3.54	3.42	20.01	25.00	28.00	27.00	-1.00	-3.57	2.00	8.00
Argentina	2.55	2.70	3.30	3.30	4.45	4.11	4.39	4.39	11.36	11.10	14.50	14.50	0.00	0.00	3.40	30.63
South Africa	2.95	3.30	3.40	3.40	1.64	3.09	2.79	2.50	4.85	10.20	9.50	8.50	-1.00	-10.53	-1.70	-16.67
Thailand	1.20	1.14	1.20	1.20	3.17	3.25	3.33	3.33	3.80	3.70	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	8.11
Major Importers	20.80	21.01	21.54	21.58	3.49	3.79	3.87	3.90	72.66	79.65	83.44	84.18	0.74	0.88	4.53	5.68
Eastern Europe	7.07	6.95	7.09	7.08	3.21	3.65	3.61	3.58	22.72	25.37	25.57	25.36	-0.21	-0.84	-0.02	-0.06
Romania	3.00	3.12	3.30	3.30	2.84	3.18	2.91	2.91	8.50	9.92	9.60	9.60	0.00	0.00	-0.32	-3.26
Yugoslavia	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	3.57	3.95	3.90	3.81	7.50	8.30	8.20	8.00	-0.20	-2.44	-0.30	-3.61
European Union	3.72	3.69	4.05	4.11	7.61	7.85	8.35	8.47	28.30	28.96	33.83	34.78	0.95	2.81	5.82	20.10
France	1.64	1.62	1.69	1.70	7.72	7.61	8.28	8.38	12.64	12.35	14.00	14.21	0.21	1.51	1.86	15.09
Italy	0.91	0.94	0.97	1.01	8.05	8.97	9.28	9.48	7.32	8.45	9.00	9.60	0.60	6.67	1.15	13.56
Mexico	8.02	7.80	8.20	8.20	2.12	2.28	2.32	2.32	17.01	17.78	19.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	1.22	6.86
FSU-12	1.88	2.47	2.10	2.10	2.14	2.84	2.15	2.15	4.03	6.99	4.51	4.51	0.00	0.00	-2.49	-35.55
Russia	0.52	0.64	0.70	0.70	1.72	2.64	1.57	1.57	0.90	1.70	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	-0.60	-35.29
Ukraine	0.65	1.16	0.70	0.70	2.36	2.92	2.71	2.71	1.54	3.39	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	-1.49	-43.99
Other W. Europe	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	8.59	8.65	8.96	8.96	0.25	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-4.44
Others	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	4.44	4.13	4.12	4.12	0.36	0.33	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.53
Other Foreign	77.92	79.68	80.53	80.50	2.72	2.80	2.84	2.84	211.80	223.49	228.54	228.39	-0.15	-0.07	4.90	2.19
China	21.15	22.77	23.50	23.50	4.69	4.92	4.98	4.98	99.28	112.00	117.00	117.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	4.46
Brazil	14.19	13.77	14.00	14.00	2.64	2.36	2.43	2.43	37.44	32.48	34.00	34.00	0.00	0.00	1.52	4.68
India	6.10	6.01	6.15	6.10	1.50	1.57	1.63	1.57	9.12	9.44	10.00	9.60	-0.40	-4.00	0.16	1.69
Canada	0.96	1.00	1.04	1.04	7.37	7.25	6.92	6.92	7.04	7.27	7.20	7.20	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-0.98
Indonesia	3.65	3.53	3.55	3.55	1.67	1.70	1.86	1.86	6.10	6.00	6.60	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.60	10.00
Philippines	2.97	2.76	2.70	2.70	1.53	1.57	1.59	1.59	4.53	4.32	4.30	4.30	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.56
Egypt	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	6.38	6.47	6.52	6.52	5.65	5.74	5.80	5.80	0.00	0.00	0.06	1.08
Zimbabwe	1.40	1.55	1.40	1.40	0.64	1.68	1.43	1.43	0.89	2.60	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-0.60	-23.08
Others	26.62	27.41	27.30	27.32	1.57	1.59	1.53	1.53	41.75	43.64	41.64	41.89	0.25	0.60	-1.75	-4.01

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 6

Barley Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	73.37	68.97	66.42	66.41	2.20	2.06	2.33	2.33	161.32	142.41	154.89	154.86	-0.03	-0.02	12.45	8.74
United States	2.70	2.54	2.75	2.75	3.03	3.08	3.15	3.15	8.16	7.83	8.64	8.64	0.00	0.00	0.81	10.36
Total Foreign	70.67	66.43	63.67	63.67	2.17	2.03	2.30	2.30	153.16	134.58	146.25	146.22	-0.03	-0.02	11.64	8.65
European Union	10.97	10.77	11.55	11.45	3.98	4.06	4.53	4.56	43.69	43.70	52.28	52.17	-0.11	-0.21	8.47	19.39
Denmark	0.71	0.72	0.79	0.79	4.89	5.40	5.30	5.30	3.45	3.86	4.19	4.19	0.00	0.00	0.33	8.44
France	1.41	1.39	1.53	1.53	5.44	5.56	6.21	6.22	7.65	7.74	9.50	9.50	0.00	0.00	1.76	22.75
Germany	2.07	2.11	2.25	2.21	5.27	5.64	5.33	5.47	10.90	11.89	12.00	12.07	0.07	0.62	0.18	1.54
Italy	0.39	0.38	0.39	0.34	3.74	3.64	3.85	3.82	1.47	1.39	1.50	1.30	-0.20	-13.33	-0.09	-6.27
Spain	3.60	3.30	3.53	3.53	2.11	1.58	2.83	2.83	7.60	5.20	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	4.80	92.31
United Kingdom	1.11	1.19	1.27	1.27	5.38	5.73	6.12	6.12	5.95	6.83	7.77	7.77	0.00	0.00	0.94	13.71
FSU-12	29.66	25.87	20.63	20.63	1.73	1.22	1.37	1.37	51.18	31.60	28.18	28.18	0.00	0.00	-3.43	-10.85
Russia	16.40	14.71	11.50	11.50	1.65	1.07	1.38	1.38	27.00	15.80	15.90	15.90	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.63
Ukraine	5.09	4.41	3.75	3.75	2.85	2.18	1.52	1.52	14.51	9.63	5.70	5.70	0.00	0.00	-3.93	-40.83
Kazakstan	6.05	4.79	3.60	3.60	0.84	0.50	0.75	0.75	5.10	2.41	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.29	12.17
Baltic States	1.06	0.89	0.77	0.77	1.80	1.64	2.23	2.23	1.91	1.46	1.73	1.73	0.00	0.00	0.27	18.19
Eastern Europe	3.73	3.41	3.34	3.34	2.94	3.30	2.91	2.91	11.00	11.25	9.70	9.70	0.00	0.00	-1.55	-13.79
Poland	1.03	1.05	1.10	1.10	2.60	3.13	3.11	3.11	2.69	3.28	3.42	3.42	0.00	0.00	0.14	4.30
Czech Rep.	0.68	0.56	0.65	0.65	3.80	3.84	3.54	3.54	2.58	2.14	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.16	7.48
Romania	0.76	0.57	0.50	0.50	2.12	2.98	2.20	2.20	1.61	1.70	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	-0.60	-35.29
Canada	4.09	4.37	4.93	4.93	2.86	2.99	3.23	3.23	11.69	13.04	15.90	15.90	0.00	0.00	2.87	21.98
Other W. Europe	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	3.40	3.82	4.38	4.38	0.80	0.88	1.01	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.13	14.69
Norway	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	2.85	3.29	3.69	3.69	0.51	0.58	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.07	12.17
Turkey	3.50	3.55	3.75	3.75	1.86	1.94	2.00	2.00	6.50	6.90	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	0.60	8.70
Australia	2.47	3.20	3.30	3.26	1.18	1.72	1.82	1.87	2.91	5.50	6.00	6.08	0.08	1.33	0.58	10.59
China	1.40	1.28	1.20	1.30	3.16	3.19	3.33	3.08	4.41	4.09	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-2.18
Morocco	2.58	1.30	2.43	2.43	1.44	0.46	1.56	1.56	3.72	0.60	3.80	3.80	0.00	0.00	3.20	533.33
India	0.79	0.89	0.85	0.88	1.67	1.94	1.88	1.88	1.31	1.73	1.60	1.65	0.05	3.12	-0.08	-4.62
Others	10.18	10.67	10.70	10.70	1.38	1.30	1.36	1.36	14.04	13.84	14.56	14.51	-0.05	-0.34	0.67	4.84

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 7

Oats Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	19.76	18.50	18.23	18.26	1.68	1.56	1.66	1.67	33.13	28.93	30.29	30.41	0.12	0.39	1.48	5.11
United States	1.62	1.20	1.09	1.09	2.05	1.96	2.07	2.07	3.32	2.35	2.25	2.25	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-4.21
Total Foreign	18.14	17.30	17.14	17.17	1.64	1.54	1.64	1.64	29.81	26.58	28.04	28.15	0.12	0.42	1.58	5.93
FSU-12	9.97	9.34	8.89	8.89	1.39	1.14	1.12	1.12	13.85	10.69	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	-0.69	-6.42
Russia	8.33	7.93	7.60	7.60	1.28	1.08	1.09	1.09	10.70	8.60	8.30	8.30	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-3.49
Ukraine	0.60	0.56	0.53	0.53	2.30	1.99	1.32	1.32	1.39	1.12	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	-0.42	-37.28
Belarus	0.36	0.33	0.30	0.30	2.29	2.12	2.33	2.33	0.83	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.16	0.13	0.15	0.15	1.35	1.90	2.03	2.03	0.22	0.26	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.05	20.78
Maj. Foreign Exporters	2.66	2.66	2.84	2.84	1.85	1.94	2.22	2.22	4.91	5.15	6.29	6.31	0.02	0.32	1.17	22.64
Canada	1.49	1.20	1.68	1.68	2.44	2.38	2.60	2.60	3.64	2.86	4.38	4.38	0.00	0.00	1.52	53.08
Australia	0.90	1.18	0.91	0.91	1.03	1.64	1.76	1.78	0.92	1.94	1.60	1.62	0.02	1.25	-0.32	-16.37
Argentina	0.28	0.28	0.25	0.25	1.27	1.27	1.26	1.26	0.35	0.35	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-10.00
Other Foreign	5.68	5.50	5.60	5.64	2.11	2.11	2.26	2.27	11.98	11.58	12.68	12.78	0.10	0.77	1.20	10.33
China	0.50	0.54	0.55	0.55	1.20	1.19	1.18	1.18	0.60	0.64	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.56
European Union	2.06	1.83	1.94	1.94	3.09	3.18	3.44	3.50	6.36	5.82	6.66	6.79	0.13	1.92	0.96	16.54
France	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.14	4.20	4.14	4.14	4.41	0.68	0.62	0.60	0.62	0.02	3.67	0.00	0.81
Germany	0.39	0.31	0.30	0.30	4.24	4.60	5.33	5.32	1.66	1.42	1.60	1.61	0.01	0.38	0.19	13.02
Italy	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.14	2.47	2.23	2.31	2.51	0.36	0.30	0.30	0.35	0.05	18.00	0.05	17.61
Finland	0.33	0.33	0.35	0.35	3.45	3.33	3.57	3.57	1.15	1.10	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.15	13.95
Sweden	0.32	0.27	0.28	0.28	3.07	3.47	4.04	4.04	0.99	0.95	1.13	1.13	0.00	0.00	0.18	19.32
Eastern Europe	1.28	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.91	2.23	2.19	2.19	2.43	2.53	2.53	2.53	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.16
Czech Rep.	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06	3.28	3.12	3.33	3.33	0.22	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.01	6.95
Poland	0.62	0.60	0.63	0.63	2.01	2.51	2.53	2.53	1.24	1.50	1.58	1.58	0.00	0.00	0.09	5.69
Yugoslavia	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.13	1.67	1.67	1.85	1.85	0.20	0.20	0.24	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.04	20.00
Norway	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.09	3.01	3.80	4.18	4.18	0.30	0.35	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.65
Turkey	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	2.00	1.83	1.72	1.72	0.30	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-9.09
Others	1.27	1.42	1.38	1.41	0.67	0.61	0.70	0.67	0.84	0.87	0.97	0.94	-0.03	-3.09	0.07	8.42

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 8

Rye Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	10.79	10.13	11.11	11.12	2.03	2.17	2.03	2.04	21.89	21.97	22.57	22.67	0.00	0.00	0.70	3.19
United States	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.14	1.75	1.64	1.64	1.64	0.29	0.26	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-10.55
Total Foreign	10.62	9.98	10.97	10.98	2.03	2.18	2.04	2.04	21.61	21.71	22.34	22.44	0.10	0.46	0.73	3.35
FSU-12	5.88	5.03	6.22	6.22	1.59	1.48	1.48	1.48	9.38	7.46	9.20	9.20	0.00	0.00	1.74	23.35
Russia	3.89	3.23	4.40	4.40	1.54	1.27	1.34	1.34	6.00	4.10	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.00	1.80	43.90
Ukraine	0.48	0.61	0.62	0.62	1.98	2.00	1.77	1.77	0.94	1.21	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-8.94
Belarus	1.01	1.00	1.05	1.05	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.92	2.00	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.00
Baltic States	0.28	0.27	0.29	0.29	1.67	1.57	2.20	2.20	0.47	0.43	0.63	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.20	47.20
Major Exporter																
Canada	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.17	2.13	1.91	1.85	1.85	0.40	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.87
Other Foreign	4.27	4.52	4.29	4.30	2.66	2.99	2.84	2.86	11.36	13.51	12.18	12.29	0.10	0.84	-1.23	-9.09
Eastern Europe	2.71	2.78	2.64	2.65	2.21	2.50	2.32	2.32	6.00	6.93	6.14	6.14	0.00	0.05	-0.79	-11.44
Hungary	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.07	2.22	2.13	1.43	1.43	0.20	0.17	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-41.18
Poland	2.44	2.45	2.40	2.40	2.18	2.56	2.33	2.33	5.30	6.29	5.60	5.60	0.00	0.00	-0.69	-10.94
Czech Rep.	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07	3.51	3.32	3.31	3.31	0.28	0.26	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-17.94
European Union	1.24	1.41	1.32	1.33	3.99	4.35	4.26	4.31	4.94	6.15	5.62	5.72	0.10	1.76	-0.43	-7.03
Denmark	0.09	0.10	0.08	0.08	4.22	5.00	4.74	4.74	0.38	0.50	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-26.00
France	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	3.96	4.21	3.80	4.59	0.18	0.20	0.19	0.23	0.04	18.42	0.03	13.64
Germany	0.72	0.86	0.80	0.81	4.77	5.25	5.19	5.21	3.45	4.52	4.15	4.21	0.06	1.54	-0.31	-6.79
Spain	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.17	1.42	1.09	1.74	1.74	0.22	0.17	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.12	69.54
Austria	0.08	0.08	0.05	0.05	4.14	4.08	3.20	3.20	0.32	0.31	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-49.04
Sweden	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.03	4.50	4.51	5.00	5.00	0.18	0.20	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-21.18
Turkey	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.18	1.47	1.42	1.39	1.39	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.96
Others	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	1.11	1.17	1.19	1.19	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.13

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 9

Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	41.15	39.49	42.20	41.47	1.41	1.40	1.57	1.60	58.18	55.46	66.17	66.19	0.02	0.03	10.73	19.34
United States	3.61	3.35	4.82	4.82	4.57	3.49	4.24	4.24	16.49	11.69	20.40	20.40	0.00	0.00	8.70	74.41
Total Foreign	37.54	36.14	37.39	36.66	1.11	1.21	1.22	1.25	41.69	43.77	45.77	45.79	0.02	0.04	2.03	4.63
India	12.80	11.44	12.60	11.70	0.72	0.83	0.87	0.90	9.20	9.55	11.00	10.50	-0.50	-4.55	0.95	9.95
China	1.37	1.22	1.24	1.24	4.60	3.91	4.05	4.05	6.30	4.76	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	5.15
Mexico	1.00	1.73	2.00	2.00	3.00	3.21	3.00	3.00	3.00	5.57	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	7.76
Nigeria	6.50	6.40	6.45	6.45	1.00	1.06	1.05	1.05	6.50	6.80	6.80	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sudan	5.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.74	0.70	0.75	0.75	3.70	2.80	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	7.14
Argentina	0.47	0.63	0.55	0.65	3.53	3.32	3.82	3.85	1.65	2.10	2.10	2.50	0.40	19.05	0.40	19.05
Australia	0.69	0.65	0.45	0.50	1.85	2.38	2.00	2.00	1.27	1.56	0.90	1.00	0.10	11.11	-0.56	-35.69
Ethiopia	1.13	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.20	1.32	1.53	1.53	1.35	1.55	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.25	16.13
Colombia	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	3.09	3.10	3.19	3.19	0.56	0.54	0.58	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.03	5.89
Venezuela	0.15	0.18	0.18	0.18	1.33	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.20	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Egypt	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.15	4.63	5.24	5.00	5.00	0.76	0.78	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-3.23
Yemen	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.99	1.03	1.00	1.00	0.44	0.46	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.60
Tanzania	0.60	0.69	0.70	0.70	0.75	1.22	1.14	1.14	0.45	0.84	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-4.76
Niger	1.30	1.50	1.50	1.50	0.32	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.42	0.31	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.28
South Africa	0.14	0.17	0.15	0.16	1.68	2.56	2.50	2.34	0.24	0.45	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-15.73
Thailand	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	5.45	5.43	5.46	5.47	1.00	0.97	1.01	1.01	5.45	5.29	5.49	5.51	0.02	0.36	0.23	4.26

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 10

Rice Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield (Rough)				Production (Milled)				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	148.09	148.58	148.50	148.73	3.65	3.70	3.77	3.74	365.28	370.76	377.26	374.87	-2.39	-0.63	4.12	1.11
United States	1.34	1.25	1.13	1.13	6.69	6.30	6.86	6.86	6.65	5.63	5.60	5.60	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-0.64
Total Foreign	146.75	147.33	147.36	147.60	3.63	3.68	3.74	3.71	358.63	365.13	371.66	369.28	-2.39	-0.64	4.15	1.14
Major Exporters	23.59	24.30	24.03	24.03	2.85	2.95	2.99	2.88	43.11	45.94	46.10	44.46	-1.64	-3.56	-1.48	-3.21
Vietnam	6.77	7.19	6.90	6.90	3.64	3.71	3.73	3.73	16.26	17.60	17.00	17.00	0.00	0.00	-0.60	-3.41
Thailand	9.20	9.25	9.20	9.20	2.33	2.36	2.37	2.29	14.12	14.40	14.40	13.90	-0.50	-3.47	-0.50	-3.47
Burma	5.52	5.70	5.70	5.70	2.90	3.02	3.16	2.81	9.28	10.00	10.44	9.30	-1.14	-10.92	-0.70	-7.00
Pakistan	2.11	2.16	2.23	2.23	2.45	2.73	2.87	2.87	3.45	3.94	4.26	4.26	0.00	0.00	0.32	8.23
Major Importers	15.98	15.93	16.23	16.23	4.07	4.09	4.15	4.15	43.38	43.36	45.03	45.03	0.00	0.00	1.68	3.87
Indonesia	11.44	11.40	11.60	11.60	4.35	4.41	4.44	4.44	32.33	32.70	33.50	33.50	0.00	0.00	0.80	2.45
South Korea	1.10	1.06	1.05	1.05	6.25	6.05	6.85	6.85	5.06	4.69	5.32	5.32	0.00	0.00	0.63	13.34
European Union	0.36	0.36	0.41	0.41	5.63	5.54	6.15	6.13	1.30	1.23	1.58	1.58	0.00	0.13	0.36	29.14
Iran	0.62	0.62	0.65	0.65	4.36	4.36	4.39	4.39	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.56
Nigeria	1.67	1.70	1.70	1.70	2.20	2.22	1.96	1.96	2.20	2.26	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-0.26	-11.50
Other Foreign	107.18	107.10	107.11	107.34	3.96	4.03	4.09	4.07	272.14	275.83	280.53	279.79	-0.75	-0.27	3.95	1.43
China	30.17	30.70	30.70	30.70	5.83	6.03	6.14	6.14	123.15	129.65	132.00	132.00	0.00	0.00	2.35	1.81
India	42.50	42.30	42.50	42.70	2.86	2.82	2.86	2.81	81.16	79.46	81.00	80.00	-1.00	-1.23	0.54	0.68
Bangladesh	9.92	9.94	10.00	10.00	2.55	2.67	2.78	2.78	16.83	17.69	18.50	18.50	0.00	0.00	0.81	4.60
Japan	2.21	2.12	1.98	1.98	6.77	6.34	6.54	6.54	10.90	9.78	9.41	9.41	0.00	0.00	-0.37	-3.76
Brazil	4.24	3.88	3.70	3.70	2.57	2.59	2.46	2.46	7.40	6.83	6.20	6.20	0.00	0.00	-0.63	-9.28
Philippines	3.67	3.92	3.95	4.00	2.86	2.85	2.84	2.88	6.81	7.26	7.30	7.50	0.20	2.74	0.24	3.26
Egypt	0.58	0.42	0.42	0.42	7.94	8.06	9.60	9.60	2.83	2.10	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.40	19.05
Taiwan	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.35	5.63	5.71	5.41	5.41	1.51	1.52	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	-0.12	-7.71
FSU-12	0.54	0.51	0.54	0.54	2.87	2.82	2.51	2.51	1.00	0.93	0.88	0.88	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-5.38
Russia	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.20	2.83	2.70	1.93	1.93	0.35	0.30	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-16.67
Australia	0.13	0.15	0.17	0.17	8.88	6.38	8.82	8.90	0.81	0.68	1.04	1.05	0.01	0.96	0.37	54.41
Others	12.86	12.80	12.80	12.79	2.81	2.75	2.88	2.90	19.73	19.93	20.30	20.34	0.04	0.21	0.41	2.07

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 11

Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World Total 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	260.90	256.50	257.25	259.08	1.84	0.71	2.59	1.01
Total Foreign 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	181.18	187.40	182.31	184.15	1.84	1.01	-3.25	-1.74
Copra	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.48	4.95	5.14	5.34	0.20	3.89	0.38	7.76
Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.62	4.96	5.30	5.30	-0.00	-0.04	0.34	6.81
Major Oilseeds 2/	155.71	161.51	157.71	158.08	1.61	1.53	1.56	1.57	250.80	246.58	246.81	248.45	1.64	0.66	1.86	0.76
United States 2/	32.20	33.57	32.57	32.57	2.48	2.06	2.30	2.30	79.72	69.10	74.93	74.93	0.00	0.00	5.84	8.45
Foreign Oilseeds 2/	123.51	127.95	125.14	125.51	1.39	1.39	1.37	1.38	171.08	177.49	171.88	173.52	1.64	0.95	-3.97	-2.24
South America	24.68	24.93	25.54	25.33	2.04	1.93	2.02	2.06	50.32	48.00	51.59	52.26	0.67	1.29	4.26	8.87
Brazil	13.00	12.18	12.85	12.65	2.08	2.01	2.11	2.19	27.02	24.51	27.16	27.66	0.50	1.84	3.15	12.83
Argentina	9.36	10.34	10.20	10.20	2.08	1.87	1.96	1.96	19.43	19.33	19.99	19.99	0.00	0.00	0.66	3.39
Paraguay	1.42	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.72	1.83	1.86	1.98	2.44	2.64	2.68	2.86	0.18	6.91	0.22	8.32
China	25.12	25.08	23.43	23.56	1.68	1.72	1.67	1.69	42.25	43.19	39.02	39.71	0.69	1.77	-3.48	-8.05
India	28.01	30.25	30.20	30.67	0.83	0.82	0.82	0.82	23.18	24.84	24.75	25.13	0.38	1.54	0.29	1.16
European Union	6.43	5.98	5.78	5.78	1.97	2.21	2.25	2.24	12.69	13.19	12.99	12.94	-0.05	-0.35	-0.25	-1.90
France	1.83	1.92	1.87	1.87	2.25	2.53	2.74	2.74	4.11	4.86	5.11	5.11	0.00	0.00	0.25	5.14
Italy	0.43	0.47	0.56	0.56	2.75	2.60	2.68	2.68	1.18	1.22	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.28	23.13
Germany	1.26	1.04	0.89	0.89	2.51	3.13	2.36	2.36	3.15	3.27	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	-1.17	-35.70
Spain	1.35	1.09	1.14	1.14	0.82	0.63	1.19	1.19	1.11	0.68	1.35	1.35	0.00	0.00	0.67	98.09
United Kingdom	0.50	0.44	0.43	0.43	2.61	3.03	3.37	3.37	1.30	1.33	1.45	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.12	9.02
FSU-12	8.96	10.09	9.87	9.87	0.97	1.12	0.88	0.88	8.68	11.28	8.67	8.67	0.00	0.00	-2.61	-23.13
Russia	3.84	4.86	4.75	4.75	0.81	0.95	0.69	0.69	3.10	4.62	3.28	3.28	0.00	0.00	-1.34	-28.93
Ukraine	1.85	2.04	1.94	1.94	0.88	1.42	1.10	1.10	1.62	2.90	2.13	2.13	0.00	0.00	-0.76	-26.37
Uzbekistan	1.53	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.57	1.47	1.40	1.40	2.40	2.20	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-4.55
Turkmenistan	0.54	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.19	1.22	0.58	0.58	0.64	0.55	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	-0.29	-52.73
Canada	6.66	6.14	4.38	4.38	1.44	1.43	1.66	1.66	9.60	8.80	7.27	7.27	0.00	0.00	-1.53	-17.38
Indonesia	2.24	2.10	2.08	2.08	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.23	2.77	2.61	2.56	2.56	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-1.92
Pakistan	3.12	3.51	3.67	3.67	1.01	1.14	0.92	0.95	3.15	4.00	3.39	3.48	0.09	2.65	-0.52	-12.90
Eastern Europe	2.52	3.10	3.02	3.01	1.61	1.70	1.57	1.57	4.06	5.27	4.75	4.74	-0.01	-0.15	-0.53	-10.09
Poland	0.37	0.61	0.28	0.28	2.04	2.25	1.64	1.64	0.76	1.36	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	-0.91	-66.94
Romania	0.65	0.79	0.99	0.99	1.33	1.32	1.32	1.32	0.86	1.04	1.31	1.31	0.00	0.00	0.27	25.82
Hungary	0.45	0.53	0.58	0.58	1.60	1.48	1.83	1.83	0.72	0.79	1.06	1.06	0.00	0.00	0.28	35.41
Turkey	1.21	1.45	1.38	1.38	1.39	1.49	1.45	1.45	1.68	2.17	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-0.17	-7.89
Philippines	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.87	0.86	0.88	0.88	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.82
Mexico	0.50	0.45	0.51	0.51	1.63	1.44	1.39	1.43	0.81	0.65	0.71	0.73	0.02	3.10	0.08	12.98
Others	14.02	14.80	15.22	15.21	0.84	0.91	0.93	0.92	11.84	13.45	14.14	13.98	-0.16	-1.10	0.53	3.92

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 12

Soybean Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	62.21	61.33	63.24	63.04	2.21	2.03	2.10	2.13	137.78	124.75	132.81	133.98	1.17	0.88	9.23	7.40
United States	24.63	24.94	25.66	25.66	2.78	2.38	2.53	2.53	68.49	59.24	64.84	64.84	0.00	0.00	5.59	9.44
Total Foreign	37.58	36.40	37.58	37.38	1.84	1.80	1.81	1.85	69.29	65.51	67.97	69.15	1.17	1.73	3.64	5.55
Major Exporters	18.48	18.03	19.40	19.20	2.21	2.15	2.19	2.25	40.75	38.74	42.50	43.20	0.70	1.65	4.46	11.51
Brazil	11.68	10.95	12.00	11.80	2.22	2.16	2.21	2.29	25.90	23.70	26.50	27.00	0.50	1.89	3.30	13.92
Argentina	5.70	5.98	6.20	6.20	2.22	2.11	2.18	2.18	12.65	12.64	13.50	13.50	0.00	0.00	0.86	6.80
Paraguay	1.10	1.10	1.20	1.20	2.00	2.18	2.08	2.25	2.20	2.40	2.50	2.70	0.20	8.00	0.30	12.50
Other Foreign	19.10	18.37	18.18	18.18	1.49	1.46	1.40	1.43	28.54	26.77	25.47	25.95	0.47	1.86	-0.82	-3.08
China	9.22	8.13	7.50	7.50	1.73	1.66	1.67	1.73	16.00	13.50	12.50	13.00	0.50	4.00	-0.50	-3.70
India	4.03	4.82	5.00	5.00	0.80	0.93	0.76	0.76	3.24	4.48	3.80	3.80	0.00	0.00	-0.68	-15.10
Canada	0.82	0.82	0.86	0.86	2.75	2.78	2.52	2.52	2.25	2.29	2.17	2.17	0.00	0.00	-0.12	-5.36
Indonesia	1.48	1.39	1.40	1.40	1.14	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.68	1.56	1.55	1.55	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.64
Eastern Europe	0.16	0.18	0.21	0.21	1.56	1.70	1.64	1.62	0.26	0.30	0.35	0.35	-0.01	-1.99	0.04	13.86
European Union	0.35	0.29	0.31	0.31	2.92	3.23	3.41	3.41	1.03	0.94	1.07	1.07	0.00	0.00	0.13	13.95
FSU-12	0.66	0.55	0.56	0.56	0.74	0.66	0.73	0.73	0.49	0.36	0.41	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.05	13.93
Russia	0.58	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.73	0.60	0.70	0.70	0.42	0.29	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.06	20.69
Ukraine	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.70	1.30	0.80	0.80	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-33.33
Mexico	0.29	0.14	0.13	0.13	1.82	1.40	1.21	1.21	0.52	0.19	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-14.74
Thailand	0.34	0.28	0.32	0.32	1.32	1.30	1.25	1.25	0.45	0.37	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.03	8.70
North Korea	0.34	0.34	0.30	0.30	1.18	1.21	1.00	1.00	0.40	0.41	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-27.36
Japan	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.62	1.72	1.71	1.71	0.10	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.84
Bolivia	0.39	0.45	0.55	0.55	2.06	2.02	2.15	2.15	0.81	0.90	1.18	1.18	0.00	0.00	0.28	30.56
South Korea	0.12	0.11	0.10	0.10	1.26	1.52	1.60	1.60	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Colombia	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.04	2.07	2.14	2.00	2.00	0.12	0.06	0.09	0.07	-0.02	-22.22	0.01	16.67
Others	0.78	0.79	0.81	0.82	1.34	1.44	1.50	1.48	1.04	1.13	1.22	1.22	0.00	0.00	0.09	7.61

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 13

Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	32.05	35.78	33.39	33.76	1.03	0.99	1.00	0.99	32.88	35.41	33.39	33.49	0.10	0.31	-1.92	-5.42
United States	5.39	6.48	5.19	5.19	1.28	0.96	1.27	1.27	6.90	6.21	6.60	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.38	6.16
Total Foreign	26.66	29.30	28.20	28.56	0.97	1.00	0.95	0.94	25.98	29.20	26.80	26.90	0.10	0.38	-2.30	-7.88
China	5.53	5.42	4.80	4.80	1.39	1.56	1.43	1.43	7.70	8.44	6.86	6.86	0.00	0.00	-1.58	-18.72
FSU-12	2.71	2.57	2.55	2.55	1.33	1.28	1.11	1.11	3.60	3.30	2.81	2.81	0.00	0.00	-0.49	-14.86
Uzbekistan	1.53	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.57	1.47	1.40	1.40	2.40	2.20	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-4.55
Turkmenistan	0.54	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.19	1.22	0.58	0.58	0.64	0.55	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	-0.29	-52.73
India	7.86	9.06	8.50	8.87	0.59	0.59	0.62	0.60	4.60	5.37	5.25	5.33	0.08	1.52	-0.03	-0.65
Pakistan	2.65	3.05	3.20	3.20	1.03	1.17	0.93	0.95	2.72	3.57	2.96	3.05	0.09	3.04	-0.52	-14.57
Brazil	1.22	1.13	0.75	0.75	0.79	0.58	0.67	0.67	0.96	0.66	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-23.66
Turkey	0.58	0.76	0.75	0.75	1.60	1.70	1.60	1.60	0.93	1.29	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-6.69
African Franc Zone	1.45	1.61	1.75	1.75	0.69	0.74	0.78	0.78	1.00	1.19	1.37	1.37	0.00	0.00	0.18	15.25
Australia	0.22	0.30	0.39	0.39	2.14	1.96	2.08	2.00	0.47	0.60	0.81	0.78	-0.03	-3.70	0.18	31.09
Egypt	0.31	0.31	0.39	0.39	1.38	1.27	1.52	1.52	0.42	0.39	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.20	50.51
Argentina	0.70	0.96	0.90	0.90	0.86	0.78	0.81	0.81	0.60	0.74	0.73	0.73	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-1.88
Paraguay	0.28	0.30	0.20	0.20	0.71	0.67	0.68	0.60	0.20	0.20	0.14	0.12	-0.02	-11.11	-0.08	-40.00
Greece	0.38	0.44	0.42	0.42	1.51	1.52	1.30	1.19	0.58	0.67	0.55	0.50	-0.05	-8.26	-0.17	-25.37
Syria	0.18	0.20	0.22	0.22	2.08	2.19	2.27	2.27	0.38	0.43	0.49	0.49	0.00	0.00	0.07	15.19
Mexico	0.15	0.24	0.30	0.30	1.43	1.53	1.56	1.63	0.21	0.37	0.47	0.49	0.02	4.70	0.12	32.43
Colombia	0.08	0.11	0.09	0.09	1.23	1.25	1.16	1.16	0.10	0.14	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-29.29
Sudan	0.17	0.22	0.23	0.23	1.16	1.13	1.00	1.00	0.20	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-7.63
Others	10.04	11.68	11.27	11.64	0.59	0.60	0.62	0.61	5.91	6.97	7.00	7.08	0.08	1.14	0.11	1.53

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 14

Peanut Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	19.75	19.56	19.87	19.83	1.34	1.33	1.32	1.32	26.48	26.08	26.28	26.20	-0.08	-0.29	0.13	0.49
United States	0.66	0.61	0.56	0.56	2.94	2.56	2.94	2.94	1.93	1.57	1.65	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.08	5.29
Total Foreign	19.09	18.95	19.30	19.26	1.29	1.29	1.28	1.27	24.56	24.51	24.63	24.55	-0.08	-0.30	0.04	0.18
China	3.78	3.81	3.77	3.77	2.56	2.68	2.52	2.52	9.68	10.20	9.50	9.50	0.00	0.00	-0.70	-6.86
India	7.92	7.80	8.20	8.20	1.04	0.95	1.00	1.00	8.26	7.40	8.20	8.20	0.00	0.00	0.80	10.81
Indonesia	0.74	0.69	0.66	0.66	1.47	1.51	1.52	1.52	1.09	1.04	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-3.85
Senegal	0.93	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.77	0.91	0.94	0.94	0.72	0.81	0.85	0.85	0.00	0.00	0.04	4.94
Burma	0.49	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.90	1.08	1.08	1.08	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.71	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.16	0.20	0.20	0.20	1.75	1.75	1.80	1.80	0.28	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.86
Nigeria	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	1.36	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.27	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.11	0.14	0.14	0.10	0.98	1.48	1.48	1.32	0.11	0.20	0.20	0.13	-0.08	-37.50	-0.08	-37.50
Thailand	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.32	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Burkina Faso	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.67	1.67	1.67	1.67	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Central African Rep.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cameroon	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mexico	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.27	1.26	1.06	1.06	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-9.76
Gambia	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.11	1.22	1.21	1.21	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.86
Others	1.97	1.97	1.98	1.98	0.81	0.82	0.83	0.83	1.60	1.62	1.64	1.64	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.18

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 15

Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	18.98	20.71	19.91	19.93	1.23	1.24	1.22	1.21	23.37	25.77	24.28	24.14	-0.14	-0.58	-1.63	-6.34
United States	1.39	1.36	1.01	1.01	1.58	1.33	1.61	1.61	2.19	1.82	1.63	1.63	0.00	0.00	-0.19	-10.56
Total Foreign	17.59	19.34	18.90	18.92	1.20	1.24	1.20	1.19	21.17	23.95	22.65	22.51	-0.14	-0.62	-1.44	-6.02
FSU-12	5.30	6.56	6.37	6.37	0.82	1.13	0.82	0.82	4.37	7.38	5.21	5.21	0.00	0.00	-2.17	-29.38
Russia	3.11	4.10	4.00	4.00	0.82	1.02	0.70	0.70	2.55	4.20	2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	-1.40	-33.33
Ukraine	1.78	2.00	1.90	1.90	0.88	1.43	1.11	1.11	1.57	2.85	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	-0.75	-26.32
Argentina	2.80	3.20	2.90	2.90	2.11	1.75	1.86	1.86	5.90	5.60	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-3.57
European Union	2.85	2.38	2.33	2.33	1.41	1.36	1.69	1.69	4.03	3.24	3.94	3.94	0.00	0.00	0.70	21.72
France	1.03	0.98	0.92	0.92	2.00	1.95	2.19	2.19	2.05	1.90	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.26
Spain	1.24	0.98	0.99	0.99	0.79	0.59	1.15	1.15	0.98	0.58	1.14	1.14	0.00	0.00	0.57	98.26
Italy	0.22	0.25	0.26	0.26	2.30	2.00	2.19	2.19	0.50	0.50	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.07	14.92
Eastern Europe	1.69	1.93	2.10	2.10	1.44	1.41	1.48	1.48	2.43	2.72	3.11	3.11	0.00	0.00	0.39	14.17
Hungary	0.41	0.49	0.48	0.48	1.61	1.49	1.89	1.89	0.67	0.73	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.17	23.29
Romania	0.58	0.72	0.91	0.91	1.32	1.30	1.32	1.32	0.77	0.93	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	0.27	28.62
Yugoslavia	0.16	0.17	0.20	0.20	1.93	1.74	1.95	1.95	0.31	0.30	0.39	0.39	0.00	0.00	0.09	31.76
Bulgaria	0.49	0.49	0.45	0.45	1.23	1.33	1.09	1.09	0.60	0.65	0.49	0.49	0.00	0.00	-0.16	-24.62
Czech Rep.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	2.38	1.79	1.90	1.90	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.01	17.65
China	0.81	0.81	0.80	0.82	1.70	1.56	1.70	1.57	1.37	1.27	1.36	1.29	-0.07	-5.15	0.02	1.57
India	1.97	2.17	2.20	2.20	0.61	0.65	0.68	0.68	1.20	1.40	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.10	7.14
Turkey	0.55	0.63	0.55	0.55	1.09	1.20	1.20	1.20	0.60	0.75	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-12.00
South Africa	0.54	0.61	0.50	0.46	0.83	1.24	1.05	0.97	0.45	0.76	0.53	0.45	-0.08	-14.29	-0.31	-40.40
Australia	0.14	0.07	0.16	0.15	0.95	1.19	0.94	0.93	0.13	0.09	0.15	0.14	-0.01	-6.67	0.05	60.92
Burma	0.18	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.60	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.76	0.84	0.84	0.89	0.77	0.76	0.82	0.79	0.58	0.64	0.68	0.70	0.02	2.20	0.06	9.42

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 16

Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	22.74	24.13	21.30	21.52	1.33	1.43	1.41	1.42	30.29	34.58	30.05	30.63	0.58	1.93	-3.95	-11.41
United States	0.14	0.18	0.14	0.14	1.49	1.43	1.55	1.55	0.21	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-12.40
Total Foreign	22.60	23.96	21.16	21.38	1.33	1.43	1.41	1.42	30.08	34.33	29.83	30.41	0.58	1.94	-3.91	-11.40
India	6.23	6.40	6.30	6.40	0.94	0.97	0.95	0.98	5.88	6.20	6.00	6.30	0.30	5.00	0.10	1.61
China	5.78	6.91	6.56	6.67	1.30	1.42	1.34	1.36	7.49	9.78	8.80	9.06	0.26	2.95	-0.72	-7.33
Canada	5.76	5.27	3.48	3.48	1.26	1.22	1.45	1.45	7.23	6.44	5.04	5.04	0.00	0.00	-1.40	-21.69
European Union	2.80	2.84	2.64	2.64	2.50	2.93	2.77	2.77	6.99	8.30	7.30	7.30	0.00	0.00	-1.00	-12.08
France	0.71	0.85	0.87	0.87	2.55	3.20	3.32	3.32	1.80	2.70	2.87	2.87	0.00	0.00	0.17	6.30
Germany	1.07	0.99	0.85	0.85	2.66	3.17	2.35	2.35	2.84	3.13	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-1.13	-36.04
United Kingdom	0.50	0.44	0.43	0.43	2.61	3.03	3.37	3.37	1.30	1.33	1.45	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.12	9.02
Denmark	0.17	0.15	0.11	0.11	2.18	2.13	2.32	2.32	0.37	0.32	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-22.53
Sweden	0.13	0.11	0.06	0.06	1.66	2.05	1.90	1.90	0.21	0.22	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-44.19
Eastern Europe	0.65	0.97	0.68	0.68	2.10	2.30	1.88	1.88	1.36	2.24	1.28	1.28	0.00	0.00	-0.96	-42.90
Poland	0.37	0.61	0.28	0.28	2.04	2.25	1.64	1.64	0.76	1.36	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	-0.91	-66.94
Czech Rep.	0.19	0.25	0.23	0.23	2.37	2.63	2.36	2.36	0.45	0.66	0.53	0.53	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-19.94
Australia	0.34	0.41	0.37	0.38	0.90	1.38	1.62	1.63	0.31	0.56	0.60	0.62	0.02	3.33	0.06	10.52
FSU-12	0.29	0.42	0.39	0.39	0.80	0.56	0.60	0.60	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43
Russia	0.15	0.28	0.25	0.25	0.83	0.45	0.52	0.52	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
Pakistan	0.31	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.74	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bangladesh	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.42
Others	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.11	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 17

Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	5.48	4.95	5.14	5.34	0.20	3.75	0.38	7.76
Philippines	2.65	1.97	2.10	2.30	0.20	8.70	0.33	16.75
Indonesia	1.29	1.38	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.45
India	0.60	0.61	0.64	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.03	4.92
Mexico	0.18	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.27
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-13.04
Others	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.36
PALM KERNEL								
World	4.62	4.96	5.30	5.30	-0.00	-0.04	0.34	6.81
Malaysia	2.37	2.50	2.65	2.65	0.00	0.00	0.15	6.00
Indonesia	1.18	1.37	1.55	1.55	0.00	0.00	0.18	13.14
Nigeria	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.70
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.56
Colombia	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08	-0.00	-2.63	0.00	2.70
Thailand	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.01	10.47
Zaire	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.11
Others	0.53	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.38
PALM OIL								
World	14.80	15.69	16.59	16.60	0.01	0.06	0.91	5.82
Malaysia	7.77	8.26	8.60	8.60	0.00	0.00	0.34	4.12
Indonesia	4.25	4.50	4.95	4.95	0.00	0.00	0.45	10.00
Nigeria	0.60	0.59	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.69
Cote d'Ivoire	0.29	0.30	0.31	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.97
Colombia	0.37	0.39	0.40	0.40	-0.00	-0.25	0.01	3.88
Thailand	0.30	0.37	0.41	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.04	10.81
Zaire	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.68
Ecuador	0.19	0.22	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.03	13.64
Others	0.92	0.94	0.95	0.96	0.01	1.14	0.02	2.01

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 18

Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change In Production			
		Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.			Prel.	1996/97 Proj.					
	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	1994/95	1995/96	Feb.	Mar.	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Kilograms per hectare				Million 480 lb. bales				MBales	Percent	MBales	Percent
World	32.15	35.88	33.44	33.81	579	559	561	556	85.52	92.17	86.21	86.34	0.13	0.14	-5.84	-6.33
United States	5.39	6.48	5.19	5.19	794	602	795	795	19.66	17.90	18.95	18.95	0.00	0.00	1.05	5.87
Total Foreign	26.76	29.40	28.25	28.61	536	550	518	513	65.86	74.27	67.26	67.39	0.13	0.19	-6.89	-9.27
Major Exporters	15.86	16.64	15.91	15.91	664	695	636	637	48.38	53.14	46.48	46.53	0.06	0.12	-6.61	-12.44
China	5.53	5.42	4.80	4.80	784	879	794	794	19.90	21.90	17.50	17.50	0.00	0.00	-4.40	-20.09
Pakistan	2.65	3.05	3.20	3.20	514	586	463	476	6.25	8.20	6.80	7.00	0.20	2.94	-1.20	-14.63
Sudan	0.17	0.22	0.23	0.23	501	485	426	426	0.40	0.49	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-8.16
Turkey	0.58	0.76	0.75	0.75	1,080	1,125	1,060	1,060	2.89	3.91	3.65	3.65	0.00	0.00	-0.26	-6.67
FSU-12	2.71	2.57	2.55	2.55	706	699	562	562	8.78	8.26	6.57	6.57	0.00	0.00	-1.69	-20.46
Uzbekistan	1.54	1.50	1.50	1.50	818	833	697	697	5.78	5.74	4.80	4.80	0.00	0.00	-0.94	-16.38
Turkmenistan	0.54	0.45	0.45	0.45	648	556	290	290	1.61	1.15	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	-0.55	-47.83
Other	0.63	0.62	0.60	0.60	482	479	428	428	1.39	1.37	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-14.60
Egypt	0.31	0.31	0.39	0.39	835	774	900	900	1.17	1.09	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.51	47.06
African Franc Zone	1.45	1.61	1.75	1.75	399	424	451	451	2.66	3.14	3.64	3.64	0.00	0.00	0.49	15.62
Southern Hemisphere	2.46	2.70	2.24	2.24	561	495	609	595	6.34	6.15	6.27	6.13	-0.15	-2.31	-0.03	-0.41
Argentina	0.70	0.96	0.90	0.90	500	438	460	460	1.61	1.93	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-1.55
Australia	0.22	0.30	0.39	0.39	1,509	1,382	1,452	1,396	1.54	1.93	2.60	2.50	-0.10	-3.85	0.57	29.60
Brazil	1.22	1.13	0.75	0.75	451	345	406	406	2.53	1.79	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	-0.39	-21.83
Paraguay	0.32	0.31	0.20	0.20	453	351	403	354	0.67	0.50	0.37	0.33	-0.05	-12.16	-0.18	-35.00
Major Importers	0.48	0.54	0.56	0.56	931	939	787	737	2.04	2.32	2.02	1.89	-0.13	-6.43	-0.43	-18.53
Other Foreign	10.42	12.22	11.78	12.15	323	335	347	340	15.44	18.81	18.77	18.97	0.20	1.07	0.16	0.82
India	7.86	9.06	8.50	8.87	300	304	315	307	10.81	12.65	12.30	12.50	0.20	1.63	-0.15	-1.18
Others	2.56	3.16	3.28	3.28	393	425	429	429	4.62	6.16	6.47	6.47	0.00	0.00	0.30	4.93

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 19

The table below presents a 15-year record of the difference between the March projections and the final estimates. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the March projection and the final estimate have averaged 3.2 million tons (0.6 percent) and ranged from -8.0 to 6.9 million tons. The March projection has been below the final 9 times and above the final 6 times.

RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1995/96 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below Final	Above Final
	Average	Average	Difference			
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
WHEAT						
World	0.6	3.2	-8.0	6.9	9	6
U.S.	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	7	3
Foreign	0.7	3.2	-8.0	6.9	9	6
COARSE GRAINS 3/						
World	0.8	6.2	-17.3	4.1	11	4
U.S.	0.1	0.1	-0.2	1.3	9	2
Foreign	1.1	6.3	-17.3	4.2	11	4
RICE (Milled)						
World	1.1	3.6	-10.0	2.3	12	3
U.S.	0.9	0.0	-0.2	0.1	5	1
Foreign	1.1	3.6	-9.9	2.3	12	3
SOYBEANS						
World	1.4	1.4	-3.0	1.5	8	7
U.S.	1.2	0.6	-1.6	1.8	7	6
Foreign	2.1	1.0	-2.2	1.6	9	6
		---Million 480-lb. bales---				
COTTON						
World	1.2	1.0	-2.9	3.0	7	7
U.S.	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	3	11
Foreign	1.4	1.0	-3.2	2.9	7	7
UNITED STATES		*-------Million bushels-------*				
CORN	0.1	3	-8	38	1	1
SORGHUM	0.1	0	0	4	0	2
BARLEY	0.4	2	-3	11	8	1
OATS	0.1	0	-2	1	3	1

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1995/96 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 15 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

MAP 1

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 1997

1 - UNITED STATES
Above average February rainfall extended from the Southwest across the Great Plains winter wheat areas into the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys and much of the Southeast. The moisture was beneficial for winter wheat. Inundating rainfall and snowmelt from unusually mild weather flooded the Ohio, Tennessee and middle Mississippi River basins. Wetness continued into early March, but recent drier weather allowed rivers to slowly recede. Ample moisture is delaying early crop planting in the South, except in Florida. A deep snowpack persists in the upper Midwest while a series of early-March storms hit the Northwest.

2 - SOUTH AMERICA
A February drying trend continued into early March, stressing second-crop soybeans in portions of central Argentina. Timely rain is needed to maintain favorable soybean yield prospects. In southern Brazil, near to above normal February rainfall favored reproductive to filling soybeans.

3 - EUROPE
Above-normal precipitation and unusually mild weather in February in England, northern France, and Germany prompt early greening of winter grains and favor early spring fieldwork. Recent mild weather in eastern Europe prompts early greening of winter grains. In Spain, dry weather since early February lowers soil moisture needed for winter grain development and spring crop planting.

4 - FSU-WESTERN
Overwintering conditions continued mostly favorable for winter grains in Russia and most of Ukraine. Mild weather since February 21 diminishes snow cover in the west and south about 4 weeks earlier than usual, allowing early season fieldwork.

5 - NORTHWESTERN AFRICA
Drought in Algeria and Tunisia reduces yield prospects for winter grains. In Morocco, although abundant moisture during the fall and early winter favored winter grain germination and early plant development, dry weather since late January has depleted soil moisture reserves and increased stress on crops entering the heading stage.

6 - SOUTH AFRICA
Dry, locally hot weather stressed immature corn during the first half of February. Crops generally ranged from reproductive to filling. Although most corn experienced some stress, the earliest planted crops had already progressed through the most critical stages of development. In March, unseasonably heavy rain stabilized immature crops and increased soil moisture for winter wheat, typically planted in May.

7 - EASTERN ASIA
Unseasonably warm late-February and early-March weather caused winter wheat to break dormancy. Above normal February and early-March rainfall favored greening wheat. Early double-crop rice transplanting began in early March.

8 - SOUTHEAST ASIA
Near to slightly below normal February rainfall aided filling main-season rice in Java. Above normal showers caused some local flooding in peninsular Malaysia. Near to above normal February rainfall slowed second-season crop harvesting in the eastern Philippines.

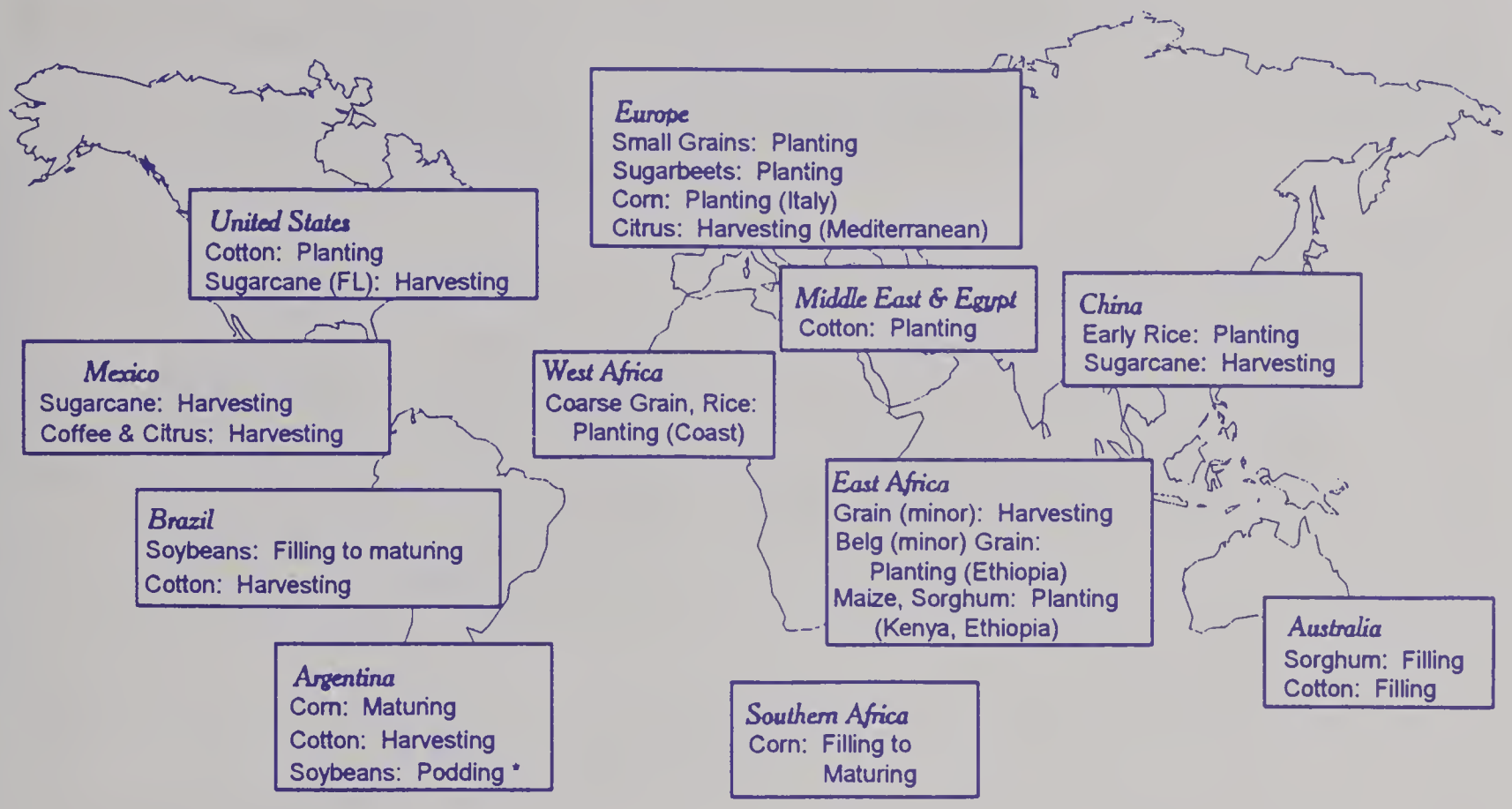
9 - AUSTRALIA
Untimely, locally heavy rain has plagued eastern Australia's main summer crop zones, keeping maturing cotton and sorghum unfavorably wet. However, the moisture has been beneficial for pastures and for increasing long term moisture reserves in major winter grain areas.

(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Subscription information may be obtained by calling (202) 720-7917.)

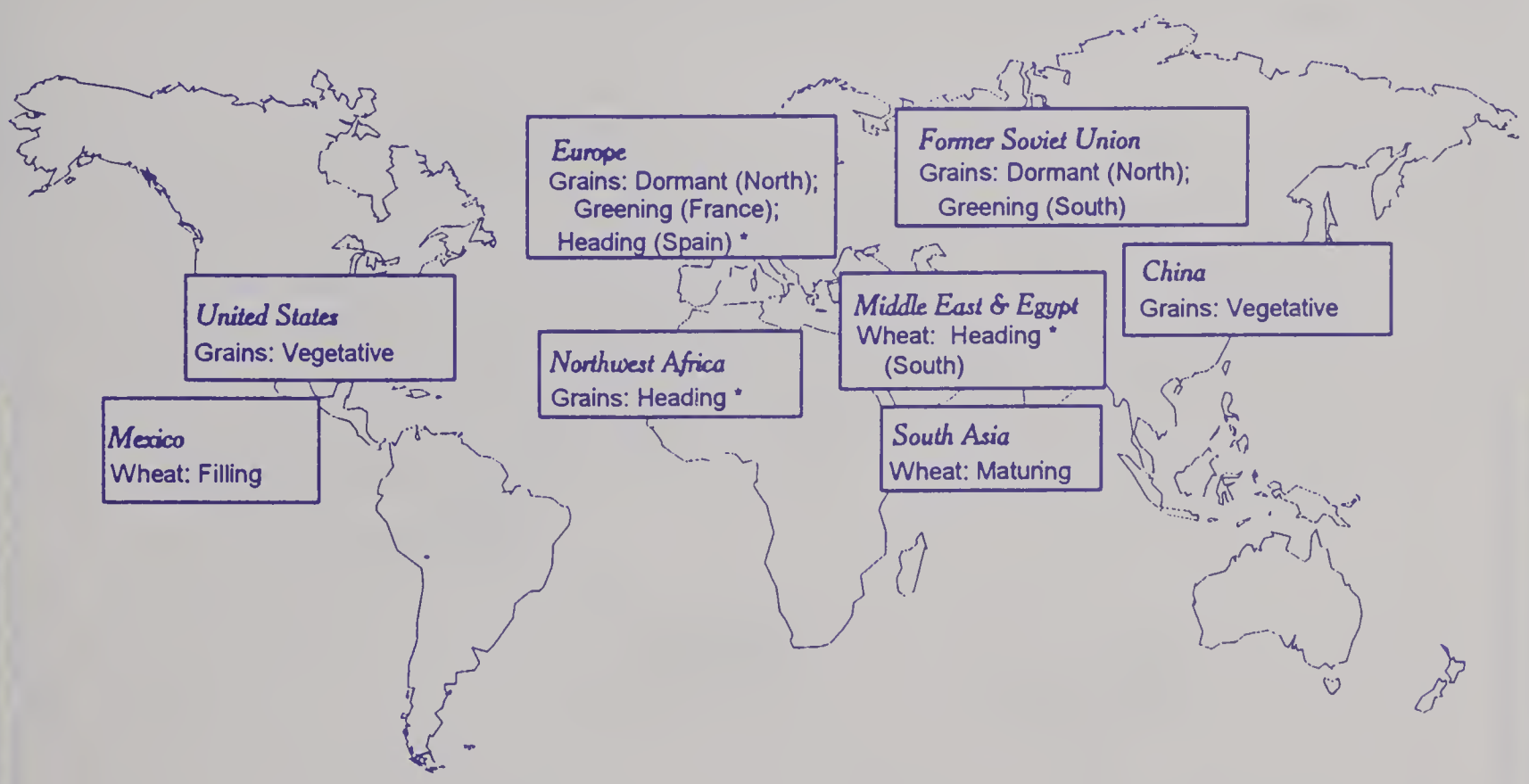
USDA/Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

March normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops

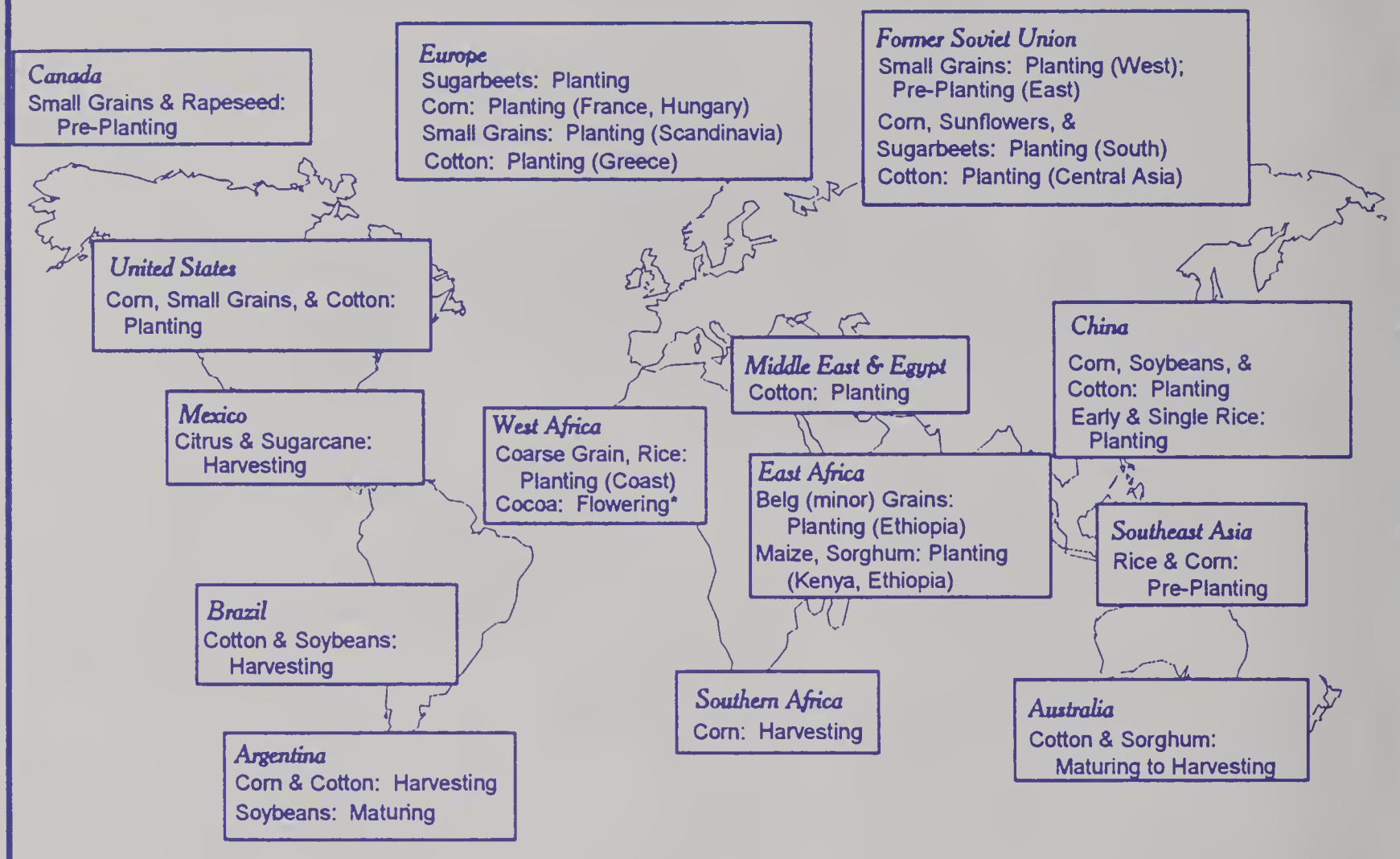


* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

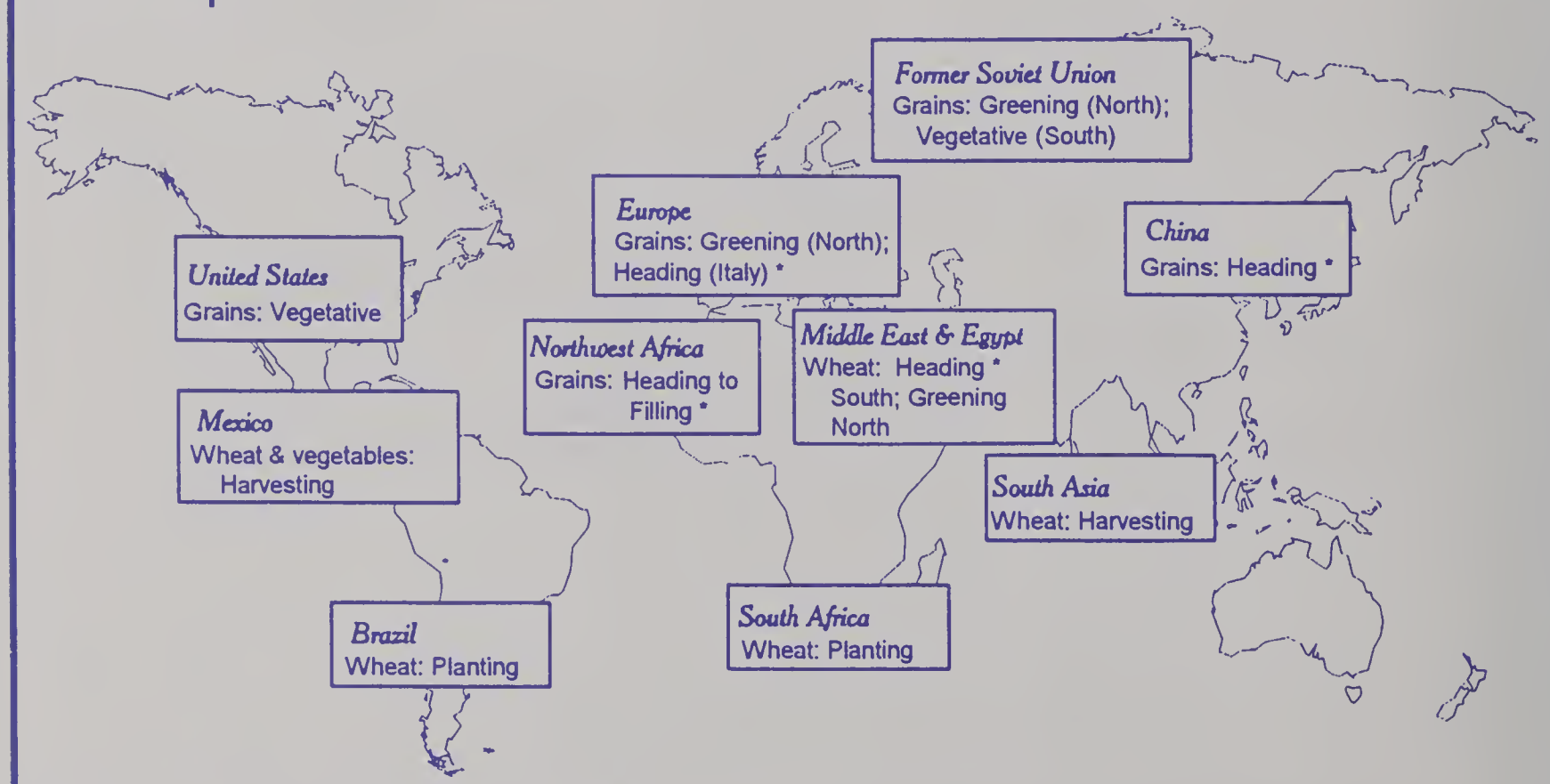
JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

April normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops



* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

WEATHER BRIEFS

BRAZIL: MOISTURE REMAINS ADEQUATE IN ALL GROWING AREAS

During January 1997, timely rainfall eased dryness in Rio Grande do Sul. Near-normal rainfall prevailed elsewhere in southern Brazil. During February, showers covered the major soybean areas of southern Brazil. During this time soybeans advanced from the reproductive and filling stages. Rainfall in southern Rio Grande do Sul increased irrigation supplies but slowed rice harvest. Rainfall was particularly heavy during the weeks of February 2 - 8 and February 16 - 22. During the first week of March, moderate showers slowed early soybean harvesting across the major crop areas. Heavier showers possibly caused some flooding in portions of Goias and western Minas Gerais.

AUSTRALIA: MOISTURE REMAINS ADEQUATE IN ALL GROWING AREAS

During January 1997, rainfall was near to above normal in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. A general drying trend dominated Queensland's main sugarcane region as well as livestock areas from southern South Australia to western Queensland. During the first week of February, moderate to heavy showers lingered over northern sections of Queensland's cotton and sorghum belts. During February 9 - 15, heavy rain returned to a broad section of the main sorghum and cotton belts of the east. Some flooding was likely again from the western edge of Queensland's summer crop areas through the Darling Downs region to coastal sugarcane areas of northern New South Wales. Damage to cotton was possible. During February 16 - 22, rain fell throughout Western Australia's main agricultural areas. This moisture was especially welcomed for livestock. Central and western Queensland and New South Wales were favorably dry. During the week of February 23 through March 1, moderate to locally heavy showers returned to Queensland's sorghum and cotton areas. The northern cotton remained unfavorably wet. Cotton harvesting typically begins in April. From March 2 - 8, unseasonable showers persisted in Queensland's main sorghum and cotton areas. Moderate to heavy rainfall kept maturing cotton and sorghum unfavorably wet but added to abundant soil moisture reserves that will ultimately aid winter wheat planting.

NORTHWEST AFRICA: SEVERE DRYNESS DEVELOPS IN MOROCCO DROUGHT CONTINUES IN ALGERIA AND TUNISIA

During January 1997, precipitation was more than twice the normal amount across Morocco. This provided for adequate subsoil moisture for winter grains in the jointing stage. In contrast, precipitation during January was well below normal in central and eastern Algeria and northern Tunisia, with above-normal rain falling in western Algeria. During the first week of February, dry and unusually warm weather prevailed over the winter grains areas in Morocco. That week, light showers fell in central and eastern Algeria and Tunisia, temporarily stabilizing winter grain conditions. During the rest of February, with a few minor exceptions, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia were dry. During March 1 - 8, drought continued in Algeria and Tunisia while persistent dryness worsened conditions for Morocco's winter grains in or entering the heading stage. A few showers, mostly less than 10 millimeters, brought little if any relief to drought-stressed crops in Algeria and Tunisia.

BRAZIL: COCOA BEAN OUTPUT LIKELY TO RISE BECAUSE OF DISEASE-RESISTANT CLONES

Cocoa bean production in Brazil is expected to increase in the near future as a result of several measures being taken by the Cocoa Research and Extension Commission (CEPLAC), according to a report by the U.S. agricultural counselor in Brasilia. CEPLAC has announced that three new varieties of cocoa trees, potentially resistant to witches-broom disease, will be made available to Bahia's cocoa producers. Five more varieties are expected to be available by early-1998. Additionally, CEPLAC is helping cocoa producers to boost productivity by changing the tree density on cocoa plantations. However, it will be a while before the impact on production can be assessed.

The 1996/97 crop forecast of 198,000 tons remains unchanged despite recent rains in Bahia, the main cocoa-producing area, that have provoked market speculation that the upcoming mid-year crop will be larger than last year.

CHILE: WALNUT PRODUCTION FORECAST UP DUE TO FAVORABLE WEATHER

Chile's walnut production during the 1996/97 season (harvested in early-1997) is forecast at 10,600 tons (inshell basis), up 8 percent from 1995/96, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Santiago. The upturn reflects favorable weather during the growing season and a slight increase in harvested area.

By Chilean standards, the quality of the 1996/97 walnut crop is reported to be excellent. However, by international standards, most Chilean walnuts are considered to be of poor quality because the fruit on the trees does not mature uniformly, which prolongs the harvest and increases the risk of mold formation. This problem is exacerbated by the large number of walnut varieties scattered throughout the country, hampering efficient orchard maintenance. Walnuts in Chile are harvested when they are ripe, which produces a darker kernel than in most Northern Hemisphere countries.

Although walnuts are planted from the Third Region through the Ninth, over 90 percent are planted in the central areas, specifically Region Five, the Metropolitan Region, and Region Six. The highest-quality walnuts are produced in Region Five where dry weather during the harvest (March through April) allows producers to pick a dry, mold free nut. Other producing regions often are plagued by rains during the harvest season.

COTE D'IVOIRE: COCOA BEAN PRODUCTION ESTIMATE REVISED UPWARD

The 1996/97 cocoa crop in Cote d'Ivoire has been revised to 1.10 million tons, up from the October 1996 forecast (WAP 10-96) of 1.05 million, according to the U.S. agricultural attache in Abidjan. The revision reflects improved prospects for the mid-crop, as the main crop forecast remains unchanged at 900,000 tons. Mid-crop prospects are favorable because of good weather and increased production from hybrid varieties in the western regions.

INDONESIA: COCOA BEAN PRODUCTION ESTIMATE INCREASED DUE TO AREA EXPANSION

According to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Jakarta, Indonesia's 1996/97 cocoa bean production estimate has been revised to 325,000 tons, up 16 percent from the October 1996 forecast (WAP 10-96) of 280,000 tons due to greater-than-anticipated area expansion and an increase in bearing tree numbers. The production estimate for the 1995/96 season has been revised from 275,000 tons to 305,000. For the 1994/95 season, the estimate has been raised slightly--from 255,000 tons to 257,000.

SOUTH AFRICA: CORN CROP STRESSED BY UNFAVORABLE FEBRUARY WEATHER

South Africa's 1996/97 corn crop is estimated at 8.5 million tons, down 1.7 million or 17 percent from last season's bumper crop, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Pretoria. Harvested area is estimated at 3.4 million hectares, up 3 percent from 1995/96 despite urging by the National Maize Producers' Association (NAMPO) to reduce corn area. In addition, according to South Africa's National Crop Estimates Committee, area planted to white corn decreased and yellow corn increased in line with the total demand for the product. White corn totaled 1.8 million hectares, down 110,000 from 1995/96; while yellow corn area is estimated at 1.6 million hectares, up 164,000 from last season. White corn area declined because the export market is limited and transportation costs from the traditional western white corn producing areas to harbors are high. Yield is estimated slightly above the 5-year average at 2.50 tons per hectare, but below last year's level of 3.09 tons.

Soil moisture at planting was the best in years and the crop benefitted from regular rainfall early in the season. However, periods of dry weather and stressful heat in February affected parts of the Maize Triangle, especially the Western Transvaal. There also are reports of crop stress and yield loss in portions of the eastern corn area due to dryness. Recent rainfall and cooler temperatures have eased crop stress and stabilized yield prospects. The crop is now in grain-fill and harvesting will start in April.

SPAIN: ALMOND PRODUCTION INCREASES FOLLOWING DROUGHT

The U.S. agricultural counselor in Madrid puts Spain's 1996/97 almond crop at 61,500 tons (shelled basis), down 10 percent from the preliminary forecast of 67,800 (WAP 9-96), but up 36 percent from the drought-reduced crop in 1995/96. Dramatically increased rainfall precipitated the recovery in production.

SPAIN: HAZELNUT CROP DIMINISHED BY UNTIMELY RAINS

According to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Madrid, Spain's 1996/97 hazelnut crop has been revised to 6,500 tons (inshell basis), down 35 percent from the preliminary estimate (WAP 09-96) of 10,000 and down 56 percent from 1995/96. The short crop is the result of cold, rainy weather during pollination.

TURKEY: CITRUS CROP DAMAGED BY FREEZE

Sub-freezing temperatures on February 15 and 16 caused significant damage to Turkey's citrus crops along the Mediterranean coast, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Ankara. Temperatures dropped as low as minus 9 degrees Celsius and lasted as long as 56 hours in some areas. Preliminary assessments indicate as much as 30 percent of both the orange and lemon crops, 40 percent of the grapefruit crop, and 15 percent of the tangerine crop had not been picked and were lost as a result of the freeze. Additionally, trees sustained significant damage, precipitating projections of low output during the 1997/98 season.

VENEZUELA: COFFEE PRODUCTION REVISED DOWNWARD

Venezuela's 1996/97 coffee estimate has been revised downward to 958,000 bags, 13 percent below the December 1996 forecast (WAP 12-96) of 1.1 million bags, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Caracas. Excessive and protracted rainfall in several key coffee-growing regions limited the size of this year's crop.

THAILAND: RICE PRODUCTION REVISED LOWER

Rice production for 1996/97 is estimated at 13.9 million tons (milled basis), down 500,000 from last month and 3 percent from last season's record crop, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Bangkok. Harvested area is estimated at 9.2 million hectares, down slightly from last season. Yield is estimated at 2.29 tons per hectare (paddy basis), down from the 1995/96 record level of 2.36 tons, but slightly above the 5-year average of 2.27 tons.

The U.S. agricultural counselor reported that the 1996 monsoon season started earlier than usual with continuous, heavy rains causing flooding in the lower North and Central Plains. As a consequence, a significant number of farmers in the low-lying lands skipped growing a traditional main crop and switched to the non-photo-period sensitive, high-yielding varieties (NPPS) that proved successful in the 1995/96 crop year--when flooding was more of a problem. Also, the heavy rains in October affected pollination during the flowering stage, causing yields to be lower than normal. In the Northeast, production of fragrant rice declined due to a prolonged dry spell during the planting period (July - August). Farmers who delayed transplanting their crop in September through early-October received lower yields than usual as the nursery plants were too old and the reproductive period was too short. A good crop in the North could not compensate for the reduction in the Northeast. As a result, 1996/97 main-crop planted area and yield dropped from last year.

Abundant water supplies in most of the reservoirs in the Chao Phaya system should allow farmers to expand their planting of the 1996/97 second crop which is likely to be larger than last season. Once again this season, there will be a double, second crop with the first harvest in March/April and the second in June/July. Given the water supply situation, yields should be excellent for both harvests. It is of interest to note that there may be a new cropping pattern emerging designed to avoid flooding and it could possibly expand to other areas. The changing cropping pattern seems to work well in the lower North and Central Plains where farmers are shifting from a long-maturity, photo-sensitive, rainfed main crop to a short-maturity, NPPS, irrigated second crop. This causes less rice to enter the market at the end of the year in December. The cropping pattern in the Upper North and Northeast remains unchanged.

FORMER SOVIET UNION: WEATHER AND CROP DEVELOPMENTS

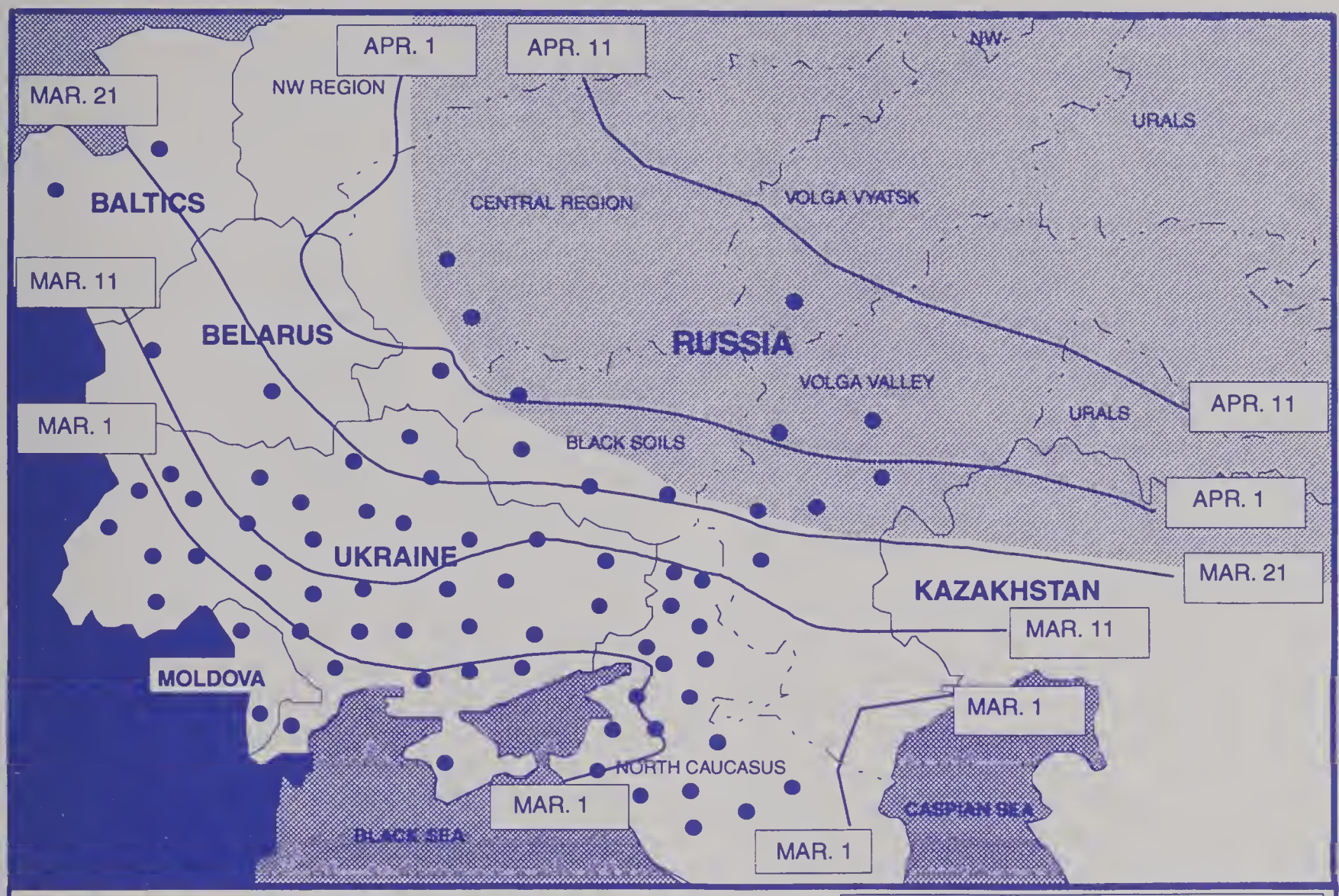
In February, below-normal precipitation limited moisture recharge in most of Ukraine and parts of the North Caucasus and middle Volga Valley regions in Russia. Winter grain areas in Belarus, the Baltics, and northern Russia received above-normal precipitation. There were two episodes of unusually cold weather in February. The first episode occurred from February 2-7 and the second occurred from February 17-21. In both cases, snow cover provided sufficient protection from significant damage to winter grains. However, some localized damage may have occurred, especially in early-February in Ukraine, where snow cover was variable. On February 22, a warming trend began spreading eastward over most areas, with temperatures rising to well above-normal by month's end. The mild weather caused crops to lose cold hardiness and melted protective snow cover in western and southern areas. However, the lack of snow cover and several days of dry weather in late-February did provide a window of opportunity for early-season fieldwork.

Since early-March, unusually mild weather continued to prevail over winter grains in Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. The continued mild weather has caused snow cover to diminish in western and southern areas about 1 month earlier than usual. The lack of snow cover in Ukraine, extreme southern Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics along with below-normal precipitation continued to allow early-season fieldwork. Temperatures were high enough in southwestern Ukraine and Moldova to prompt early greening of winter grains.

Source: NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)

AVERAGE DATES OF DISAPPEARANCE OF SUSTAINED SNOW COVER



● Each dot represents 500,000 Metric Tons of winter wheat.

(NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility)

Snow cover for March 9, 1997

WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS
March 11, 1997

- Unusually warm weather since February 22 caused snow cover to retreat northward about one month earlier than normal.

- The lack of snow cover in Ukraine, southern Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics allowed early spring fieldwork.

- Recently, temperatures were high enough in southwestern Ukraine and Moldova to prompt early greening of winter grains.

DURUM WHEAT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

Durum wheat production for 1996/97 in selected foreign durum-producing countries is estimated at 28.2 million tons, up 6.2 million or 28 percent from last year. Harvested area is estimated at 15.6 million hectares, up 1.41 million from last season while yield is estimated at 1.81 tons per hectare, up 16 percent from 1995/96. The European Union (EU-15), Canada, and the United States account for nearly 60 percent of the global production. Approximately 5 percent of all wheat grown is durum and is produced primarily in the 18 countries discussed below. The 1996/97 crop is forecast to be significantly higher than last year due to increases for the EU-15, Morocco, and Tunisia.

United States: Total U.S. durum wheat production for 1996/97 is estimated at 3.2 million tons, up 13 percent from last season. According to National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) durum harvested area is estimated at 1.4 million hectares, up 6 percent from 1995/96. About 5 percent of all U.S. wheat grown in 1996/97 is durum and over 75 percent of the U.S. durum wheat crop is produced in North Dakota. Cool, wet weather in North Dakota during April and May delayed durum seeding and by late May planting lagged three weeks behind average. Cooler-than-normal temperatures for the fourth consecutive year, with near-normal rainfall, resulted in a below-average yield of 2.20 tons per hectare.

EU-15: Durum wheat output for 1996/97 is estimated at 8.3 million tons, up 2.2 million or 36 percent from 1996/97. Production increases are estimated for most EU member States. Total harvested area is estimated at 3.1 million hectares, up 0.4 million or 13 percent from last season. The rise in durum area is attributed to generous EU subsidies which make it profitable to sow on marginally productive areas, a decrease in set-aside area, and Spain's recovery from drought. After several years of unfavorable weather in Spain, adequate rainfall covered most of the growing region. As a result of this favorable weather, Spain is estimated to produce 1.6 million tons, up 1.3 million tons or over 400 percent from 1995/96. Also, Italy's production is estimated higher at 4.1 million tons, up 0.3 million from last season due to favorable weather and an increase in yield. For the remainder of the EU, growing conditions were generally favorable in the durum-producing regions. Yield is estimated at 2.65 tons per hectare, up 20 percent from last year.

Canada: Production of durum wheat is estimated at 4.7 million tons, up 50,000 or 1 percent from the harvest of a year earlier. Durum area is estimated at 2.1 million hectares, down 1 percent from last season. Untimely rains, cool weather, and a slowly retreating snowcover delayed plantings, while summer weather was variable and early snowfall covered some unharvested summer grains in the field. Yield is estimated to be slightly above the 5-year average.

Argentina: Production of durum wheat is estimated at a record 190,000 tons, up 90,000 or 90 percent from last season based on record area and yield. Weather was favorable this season across the durum-growing areas of southeastern Buenos Aires Province.

Former Soviet Union: Russia and Kazakstan are the primary producers of durum in the countries of the former Soviet Union. Neither country publishes durum area or production estimates; however, Russia's durum production for 1996/97 is estimated at 1.8 million tons, up 150,000 or 9 percent from the last season due to an increase in area. Although a cold spring delayed planting in Russia, warm weather followed allowing rapid spring-grain plantings. Generally, dry weather persisted through the growing season keeping yield below the average of 0.93 tons per hectare, but slightly above the yield of previous season. In Kazakstan, production is estimated at 0.6 million tons, up 20 percent from last season's drought-affected crop although weather was unfavorably dry, but the dryness was less widespread than 1995/96.

India: Durum production for 1996/97 is estimated at 1.8 million tons, down 100,000 from last year. Yield decreased from last season's record due to hot temperatures in February and March of 1996. In addition,

marketing problems experienced by farmers in the Punjab last season decreased area since a portion of the durum crop didn't meet the stringent specifications established by the State procurement agency, resulting in lower prices.

Turkey: Durum output for 1996/97 is estimated at 1.5 million tons, up 0.2 million or 15 percent from last year's crop. Favorable rainfall and temperatures increased yield over last year, to 1.67 tons per hectare. Harvested area is estimated at 0.9 million hectares, up 12 percent from last season as farmers responded to higher support prices. The "sunni" insect, which regularly infests the crop, was relatively inactive compared to previous years.

Syria: Durum production for 1996/97 is estimated at 1.4 million tons, up 150,000 or 11 percent from 1995/96. Harvested area is up 50,000 hectares from the previous season and yield is estimated at a record level due to evenly distributed rainfall. Over one-third of the total-wheat area is grown on irrigated land and is increasing due to the drilling of additional wells and implementation of irrigation projects in northeastern Syria. About 30 percent of all wheat grown is durum.

Algeria: The 1996/97 durum crop is estimated at 1.0 million tons, up 100,000 or 11 percent from last year as generally favorable weather occurred in many parts of the durum-growing areas. Harvested area is estimated at 1.1 million hectares, virtually unchanged from 1995/96. Almost 70 percent of the total area sown to wheat is durum, which is primarily located in the eastern and central production areas.

Morocco: The durum output for 1996/97 is estimated at 2.2 million tons, up 1.7 million or 340 percent from the 1995/96 drought-reduced crop. Throughout the growing season, the durum wheat crop received excellent weather which boosted yield to a record 1.83 tons per hectare. Durum area is estimated at 1.2 million hectares, up 50 percent from last season. Slightly less than half the wheat grown in Morocco is durum wheat.

Tunisia: Durum production for 1996/97 is estimated at 1.6 million tons, up 1.2 million or 245 percent from the previous season's poor crop. After two consecutive small crops, the country experienced excellent weather across the grain growing regions--producing a record yield of 1.80 tons per hectare, up 114 percent from 1995/96. Harvested area is estimated at 0.9 million hectares, up 61 percent from 1995/96 and the highest area in 17 years. About three-fourths of all wheat grown is durum and production is centered in the northern regions.

Timothy Rocke, Grains Chairperson
Phone: (202) 720-1572
E-mail: rocke@fas.usda.gov

TABLE 20

DURUM WHEAT in SELECTED COUNTRIES

Harvested Area

(Thousand hectares)

	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97
Total	10,119	10,230	10,073	13,567	12,786	15,130	15,705	16,089	14,498	13,234	13,908	14,147	15,558
United States	1,303	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,152	1,500	1,419	1,294	991	850	1,099	1,358	1,435
Foreign	8,816	8,978	8,821	12,315	11,634	13,630	14,286	14,795	13,507	12,384	12,809	12,789	14,123
Algeria	1,226	1,109	978	994	665	1,010	1,060	1,150	1,200	1,000	700	1,050	1,050
Argentina	40	73	32	42	45	43	22	33	30	45	50	50	80
Canada	1,680	1,740	1,837	2,186	2,230	2,630	2,092	1,992	1,459	1,441	2,287	2,125	2,100
France	125	166	255	311	269	297	395	499	426	222	235	229	270
Germany	6	15	25	23	12	13	10	16	16	10	11	8	8
Greece	312	372	372	471	500	515	520	674	674	450	480	450	580
Italy	1,798	1,739	1,865	1,895	1,783	1,800	1,702	1,680	1,531	1,410	1,527	1,623	1,611
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	26	10	23	26	17	21	22	23
Spain	125	120	105	107	110	129	190	468	630	623	610	450	650
United Kingdom	7	11	6	6	6	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
European Union	2,373	2,423	2,628	2,813	2,680	2,781	2,829	3,362	3,305	2,734	2,886	2,784	3,143
Morocco	1,123	1,116	1,192	1,110	1,105	1,170	1,250	1,245	1,088	1,134	1,336	800	1,200
Syria	300	370	400	350	370	250	400	500	550	600	650	750	800
Tunisia	784	857	454	820	239	446	733	893	835	780	400	560	900
Turkey	1,290	1,290	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,200	920	810	720	750	800	900
Russia	NA	NA	NA	1,500	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,200
Kazakstan	NA	NA	NA	1,200	1,500	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,500	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000
India	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	700	700	730	730	750	770	750

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 21

DURUM WHEAT in SELECTED COUNTRIES

Yield

	(Tons per hectare)												
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97
Total	1.63	1.62	1.89	1.66	1.38	1.40	1.71	1.82	1.78	1.56	1.74	1.56	1.81
United States	2.16	2.45	2.13	2.08	1.06	1.67	2.35	2.19	2.67	2.26	2.40	2.05	2.20
Foreign	1.55	1.50	1.86	1.62	1.41	1.37	1.64	1.79	1.71	1.51	1.69	1.51	1.77
Algeria	0.66	0.97	0.81	0.78	0.62	0.84	0.54	1.09	1.08	0.80	0.86	0.86	0.95
Argentina	2.75	2.26	1.88	2.14	1.82	1.33	2.27	2.82	2.50	2.22	2.20	2.00	2.38
Canada	1.26	1.13	2.12	1.84	0.86	1.57	2.01	2.30	2.15	2.33	2.05	2.19	2.24
France	4.73	4.57	4.16	4.46	4.01	4.55	5.06	5.09	4.40	3.99	4.44	4.53	4.59
Germany	4.67	5.80	4.40	4.35	5.50	5.08	4.70	4.94	4.31	4.60	5.27	4.63	5.88
Greece	2.92	1.78	2.55	2.46	2.32	2.18	1.92	2.82	1.56	1.44	2.29	2.04	2.33
Italy	2.57	2.21	2.38	2.36	2.20	1.70	2.15	3.06	2.83	2.70	2.55	2.34	2.55
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.20	1.91	0.88	1.76	2.05	1.23	1.04
Spain	3.41	2.55	2.40	2.81	3.10	2.66	3.19	2.85	2.03	1.19	1.58	0.67	2.38
United Kingdom	4.29	1.18	4.00	4.00	4.00	7.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
European Union	2.78	2.34	2.60	2.65	2.46	2.16	2.59	3.29	2.61	2.25	2.47	2.20	2.65
Morocco	1.04	1.08	1.66	1.01	1.60	1.51	1.29	1.78	0.63	0.56	1.75	0.63	1.83
Syria	0.83	1.16	1.13	1.14	1.27	0.90	1.00	0.95	1.27	1.50	1.54	1.60	1.69
Tunisia	0.74	1.25	0.83	1.30	0.70	0.75	1.22	1.59	1.58	1.41	1.10	0.84	1.80
Turkey	1.55	1.48	1.54	1.54	1.77	1.35	1.67	1.63	1.54	1.60	1.43	1.63	1.67
Russia	NA	NA	NA	1.20	1.00	1.00	1.25	0.75	1.25	1.00	0.90	0.76	0.80
Kazakstan	NA	NA	NA	1.00	0.80	0.75	1.25	0.50	1.33	0.83	0.75	0.50	0.60
India	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.05	2.27	2.47	2.40

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 22

DURUM WHEAT in SELECTED COUNTRIES

Production

	(Thousand tons)												
	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97
Total	16,444	16,540	19,048	22,518	17,623	21,133	26,807	29,320	25,747	20,619	24,257	22,033	28,179
United States	2,815	3,062	2,665	2,598	1,220	2,510	3,332	2,829	2,645	1,918	2,633	2,784	3,153
Foreign	13,629	13,478	16,383	19,920	16,403	18,623	23,475	26,491	23,102	18,701	21,624	19,249	25,026
Algeria	804	1,072	790	777	415	850	575	1,250	1,300	800	600	900	1,000
Argentina	110	165	60	90	82	57	50	93	75	100	110	100	190
Canada	2,110	1,960	3,897	4,014	1,908	4,140	4,197	4,586	3,138	3,358	4,689	4,648	4,700
France	591	759	1,060	1,386	1,080	1,350	2,000	2,540	1,875	885	1,044	1,037	1,240
Germany	28	87	110	100	66	66	47	79	69	46	58	37	47
Greece	912	661	950	1,161	1,160	1,122	1,000	1,900	1,050	650	1,100	920	1,350
Italy	4,618	3,851	4,431	4,476	3,924	3,066	3,663	5,139	4,328	3,800	3,900	3,800	4,100
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	47	12	44	23	30	43	27	24
Spain	426	306	252	301	341	343	607	1,335	1,279	741	963	300	1,550
United Kingdom	30	13	24	24	24	7	10	10	10	10	10	10	5
European Union	6,605	5,677	6,827	7,448	6,595	6,001	7,339	11,047	8,634	6,162	7,118	6,131	8,316
Morocco	1,171	1,200	1,981	1,126	1,766	1,767	1,617	2,216	682	631	2,342	500	2,200
Syria	250	430	450	400	470	225	400	475	700	900	1,000	1,200	1,350
Tunisia	584	1,069	378	1,065	167	333	897	1,424	1,323	1,100	440	470	1,620
Turkey	1,995	1,905	2,000	2,000	2,300	1,750	2,000	1,500	1,250	1,150	1,075	1,300	1,500
Russia	NA	NA	NA	1,800	1,500	2,000	2,500	1,500	2,500	2,000	1,800	1,600	1,750
Kazakstan	NA	NA	NA	1,200	1,200	1,500	2,500	1,000	2,000	1,000	750	500	600
India	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,500	1,700	1,900	1,800

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

BRAZIL'S NEW NORTHWEST EXPORT CORRIDOR STIMULATES SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

A Washington, D.C.-based Foreign Agricultural Service analyst and the U.S. agricultural attache in Sao Paulo traveled in Brazil's northwestern states of Mato Grosso, Rondonia, and Amazonas during January and February 1997. The team met with government officials, traders, investors, and producers to better understand the current limitations on soybean production in these states. They also studied the effect that a new export route along the Madeira River will have on potential soybean production in Brazil's northwestern states. The itinerary included Rondonopolis, Campo Novo do Parecis, Sapezal, Campos de Julho, in Mato Grosso; Cerejeiras and Porto Velho in Rondonia; and Humaita, Manaus, and Itacoatiara in Amazonas.

Northwest Corridor Overview

Brazil is the world's second largest soybean producer with output for 1996/97 estimated at 27.0 million tons. This production level is second only to the United States making Brazil a major competitor in international markets. Moving soybeans to Brazilian ports for export remains expensive and inefficient due to inadequate transportation and storage infrastructure. This impedes Brazil from strengthening its domestic and international marketing of soybeans and products. Investments by a Brazilian private-public partnership are being made in the Northwest Corridor, an area in western Brazil along the Madeira River, and results are already being seen.

This new export route, set to open officially in April 1997, will stimulate agricultural production in northwestern Brazil and will provide a new outlet for agricultural exports. Soybean exports from this new export route are expected to reach 300,000 tons for marketing year (MY) 1997, of which 200,000 are already under contract, 600,000 tons for MY 1998, and 1.2 million tons for MY 1999. Soybeans, principally from the northwestern part of the state of Mato Grosso (from the Chapada do Parecis area), currently are being trucked approximately 900 kilometers (560 miles) to the port of Porto Velho in Rondonia state where they are stored or transferred to barges. The beans will then be shipped by barge on the Madeira River to the floating-port facility at Itacoatiara. Itacoatiara is located on the Amazon River about 260 kilometers (160 miles) east of Manaus, the capital of the state of Amazonas. Itacoatiara's floating port has grain storage facilities capable of handling ocean-going vessels.

Before the opening of this new export corridor, soybeans for export were trucked to the southern Atlantic ports of Paranagua and Santos, in Parana and Sao Paulo states respectively. Due to the long distance from ports of Paranagua and Santos and the resulting high transportation costs, northwestern states were the most expensive areas in Brazil to produce soybeans. At harvesting, peak transportation costs comprised over 30 percent of the soybeans' market value with costs ranging between $70 and $110 per ton. These high transportation costs put soybean production in northwestern Mato Grosso on the edge of economic viability. Further north in Mato Grosso and Rondonia, soybean production was not profitable.

TRANSPORTATION COSTS AND DISTANCE TO PORT

	Distance to Paranagua (km)	Estimated Cost of Transportation ($/ton)	Distance to Porto Velho (km)	Transportation Cost Reduction ($/ton)
Campo Novo do Parecis	2,500	70 to 90	1,050	na
Sapezal	2,550	90 to 95	1,000	25
Campos de Julho	2,600	110	950	28
Vilhena	2,880	na	705	32
Carejeiras	3,000	na	829	40
Cacoal	3,100	na	477	na
Ariquemes	3,380	na	198	na

Source: Interviews with trade officials

The shipping cost to southern ports can also be measured in terms of time; it takes 10 days round-trip to drive to Paranagua from Campo Novo do Parecis under the best of conditions, assuming no delays at port and no mishaps on Brazil's poorly-maintained roads. Despite these costs, over 95 percent of the state's farmers shipped their soybeans to these ports by truck. Now, soybeans can be trucked north to the closer barge terminal at Porto Velho at much reduced cost. Estimates of cost reduction vary, but most are around $30 per ton. Trucks should be able to drive from Sapezal to Porto Velho and back in three days, effectively tripling the number of trucks available for transporting soybeans. Currently, trucking costs to Porto Velho are not well known because this is the first season for shipping on the Northwest Corridor; the first soybeans are expected to be shipped in March 1997. To the north and west of Sapezal, on the Chapada do Parecis, soybeans will be exported on the Northwest Corridor, according to field contacts. The eastern side of the Chapada do Parecis and producers further south will continue to export soybeans to the southern ports in Parana.

Soybean Producing Areas in the Northwestern Frontier

Soybeans are grown throughout Brazil; however, the largest concentration is in the southern states of Parana and Rio Grande do Sul, and in the Center-West state of Mato Grosso. Together these three states account for 67 percent of Brazil's soybean production. Potential growing area in northwestern Brazil is difficult to gauge; however, sources claim that 20 million hectares (50 million acres) are arable in this region. Mato Grosso is a relatively new area for soybean production, becoming commercially important in the early 1980's, and its importance is rapidly increasing. In Mato Grosso there are three main producing areas--Rondonopolis, the mid-north (near Diamantino), and the Chapada do Parecis in the northwest. The Chapada do Parecis is a plateau with an elevation of 600 meters (1,970 feet), 50 kilometers wide (30 miles), and extends 400 kilometers (250 miles) into southern Rondonia state on the west. The amount of arable land on this plateau is estimated at over 4 million hectares (10 million acres).

In the near term, the Chapada do Parecis is expected to have enormous production potential, with area expanding 50,000 to 100,000 hectares per year. Currently there are 1.35 million hectares (3 million acres) of soybeans on Mato Grosso's portion of the Chapada, producing 3.35 million tons of soybeans. On Rondonia's portion of the Chapada, there are 15,000 hectares (37,000 acres) in soybeans with a potential of 2.0 million hectares (5 million acres). Grain storage, inputs, and transportation to market are accessible. Technological knowledge of growing soybeans is available through the Mato Grosso Foundation, a public-private partnership.

The natural vegetation of the Chapada do Parecis is cerrado, or tropical savannah, and can be adapted for soybean cultivation. Soils on the Chapada are oxisols, an acidic soil needing corrective applications of lime every three years and fertilizer every year. The extensive use of agrichemicals has boosted average soybean yields on the Chapada to 2.5 tons per hectare (38 bushels/acre), although observed yields were between 3.0 and 4.2 tons/hectare (45 to 62 bushels/acre). Soybean yields are typically lower (2.1 tons/hectare, or 31 bushels/acre) for the first three years after the land has been cleared, and yields increase and stabilize for seven years before declining slightly and stabilizing again. Cost of production averages $380 per hectare, which does not include land clearing costs and liming ($300 per hectare). Currently, the largest soybean farm is 33,000 hectares (81,500 acres) while the average farm in the area around Campo Novo do Parecis is 1,700 hectares (4,200 acres). Soil conservation is widely practiced--no-till planting and contour farming on the pasture land closest to streams. Presently, soybeans are the only crop which is economically feasible to grow. If transportation costs are further reduced, crop diversification will become more feasible with corn, cotton, and sugarcane most likely to be included in rotation. Currently, crop rotation is minimal, although some of the early-soybean varieties (about 20 percent of Mato Grosso's production) are followed in rotation by "milhete", a type of corn with small kernels. Early-soybean varieties planted in this region mature in 109 days, medium varieties in 118 days, and late varieties mature in 128 days.

Average rainfall is over 2,400 millimeters per year (95 inches per year) and falls in a well defined rainy period from October to April, making the Chapada a productive place to grow soybeans. Stem canker and nematodes are a problem and need to be managed to increase yields. Resistant or tolerant varieties to stem

canker have been introduced. No-till planting also has reduced the spread of nematodes because the soil is disturbed less than in conventional tilling.

Farmers interviewed in southern Rondonia's portion of the Chapada were enthusiastic about growing soybeans. Average farm size is smaller in southern Rondonia--100 to 200 hectares (250 to 500 acres) compared to 1,700 hectares (4,200 acres) in northwestern Mato Grosso. Before soybeans can be grown in this area the land needs to be cleared, requiring 6 hours per hectare with a tractor; however, farm machinery is in short supply and old. Soils here are more fertile than in northwestern Mato Grosso, but soil erosion may be a problem due to the smaller farm size and lack of capital.

Over the long term, reduced transportation costs are expected to continue to stimulate soybean production in northwestern Brazil, not only for the Chapada but also for the states of Acre, Amazonas, and Roraima. The states of Amazonas and Acre reportedly have approximately 5.0 million hectares (12 million acres) that are arable, but require development. These areas are at a lower elevation. Soils need to be drained and soybean varieties need to be developed which are better-suited to the climate. In addition, there is a lack of grain storage facilities, and roads from Porto Velho to Humaita need considerable investment.

Production potential in the state of Roraima is hard to gauge. Some successful soybean growers of northern Mato Grosso have visited Roraima and assert that there is plentiful savannah-type land within a reasonable distance from the port of Caracarai, located on a river (the Rio Branco) which feeds into the Amazon River. For production to become viable, investment in the infrastructure of Caracarai would have to be made, the Rio Branco would need to be mapped, and the soils in which soybeans would be planted would need to be limed. Soils near the port of Caracarai are similar to soils on the Chapada and this area has a higher elevation. Soybeans would be transhipped through Itacoatiara. Soybeans produced in Roraima would be on a northern hemisphere schedule--planting in May and harvesting in October.

SOYBEAN AREA IN THE NORTHWESTERN FRONTIER
(hectares)

State	Region	1996/97	1997/98	Potential
Mato Grosso	Campo Novo do Parecis	279,500	299,500	459,500
Mato Grosso	Sapezal	180,000	200,000	330,000
Mato Grosso	Campos de Julho	75,000	95,000	195,000
Mato Grosso	Other Chapada	800,000	840,000	2,800,000
Rondonia	Vilhena	0	5,000	30,000
Rondonia	Cerejeiras	0	5,000	30,000
Rondonia	Cacoal	0	5,000	40,000
Rondonia	Ariquemes	0	5,000	30,000
Rondonia	Other	15,000	20,000	1,900,000
Amazonas	Humaita	0	0	60,000
Amazonas	Other	0	0	2,400,000
Acre	--	0	0	2,500,000
Roraima	--	0	0	na
Total	--	1,349,500	1,474,500	10,774,500

Source: Interviews with trade sources

Infrastructure Development at Porto Velho and Porto Itacoatiara

Grain storage, roads, barges, and ports currently are being built to export soybeans from the Northwestern Corridor. Grain storage facilities currently total about 285,000 tons. At Campo Novo do Parecis there is storage of 63,000 tons, at Sapezal--117,000 tons, at Campos de Julho--

60,000 tons, and at Porto Velho--45,000 tons. The construction of grain loading facilities at Porto Velho consists of two truck dumpers and a flow through rate of 800 tons/hour.

Starting March 10, 1997, soybeans from Sapezal will be loaded on 2,000 ton barges which have been specifically built for the Madeira River, and shipped 1,115 km (692 miles) to Itacoatiara. The Itacoatiara facility--the floating port on the Amazon River--is about 260 kilometers (160 miles) east of Manaus, the capital of Amazonas state, and 15 kilometers (9 miles) from the mouth of the Madeira River. The barges will move agricultural products (for now only soybeans) on the Madeira River in convoys of 6, approximately 11,400 tons per convoy. Convoys will be transported downstream by pushers and tugboats and tracked by Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Travel time to the port at Itacoatiara is three days. The river is navigable for these convoys 320 days per year. During the rainy season, channel depth is 45 meters (148 feet); however it drops to 10 meters (33 feet) during the dry season, in mid-September. The Madeira River presents many navigation hazards; it is a swift river (6 knots) and is dangerous because of shoals and floating debris such as logs. The river is not currently dredged and the convoys will need to have lateral movement and be able to turn 360 degrees. One concern is that when the convoys are going downstream they will lose mobility because of the strong current. The channels in the river currently are being mapped, using GPS satellite technology to create a digital database of the channels. This also will improve convoy safety and increase speed, allowing four trips per month to Itacoatiara.

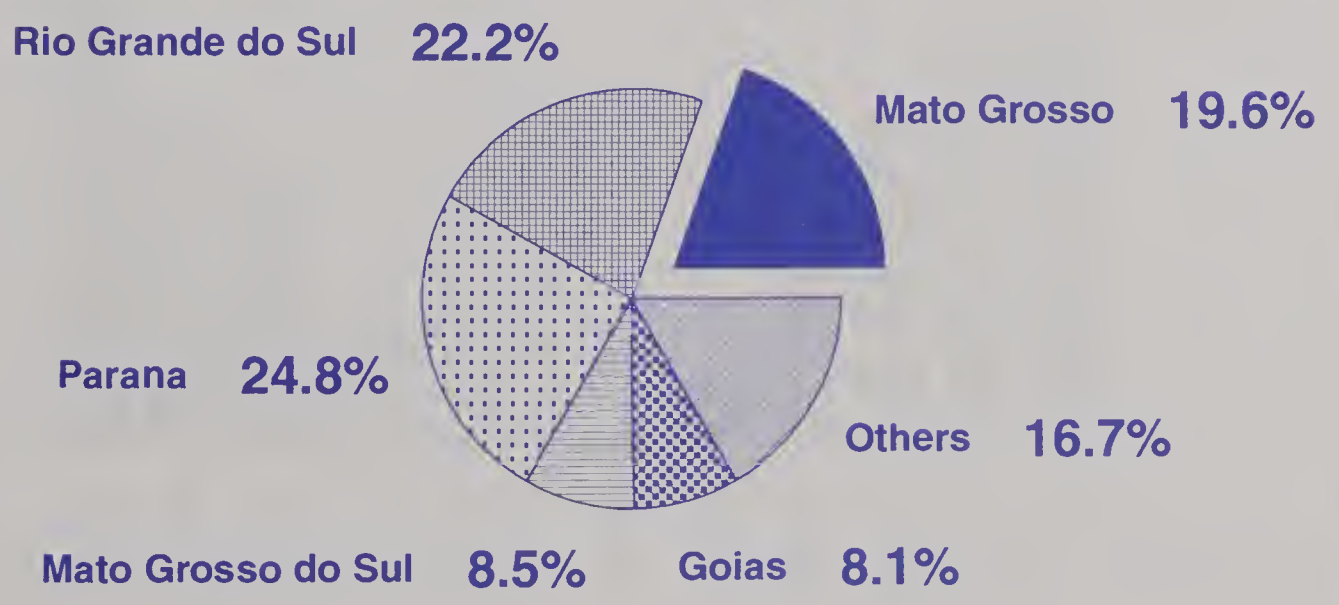
Soybeans will be transferred from barges to Itacoatiara's 90,000 ton storage facility. The river depth at the floating port is 40 meters (130 feet) enabling vessels up to 150,000 tons to dock. The loading rate is 1,500 tons per hour from the storage facility; therefore, an oceangoing vessel of 150,000 tons can be easily loaded in under 6 days. The beans will then be shipped down the Amazon River and directly to major markets (e.g., Rotterdam). The first vessel, a cargo of 35,000 tons, is expected to begin loading operations on April 17, 1997.

Robert Tetrault, Regional Analyst
Phone: (202) 690-0140
E-mail: tetrault@fas.usda.gov

MAP 5

CHART 1

1996/97 Soybean Production in Brazil (by State)



Source: BR7016

CHART 2

Soybeans in Mato Grosso, Brazil

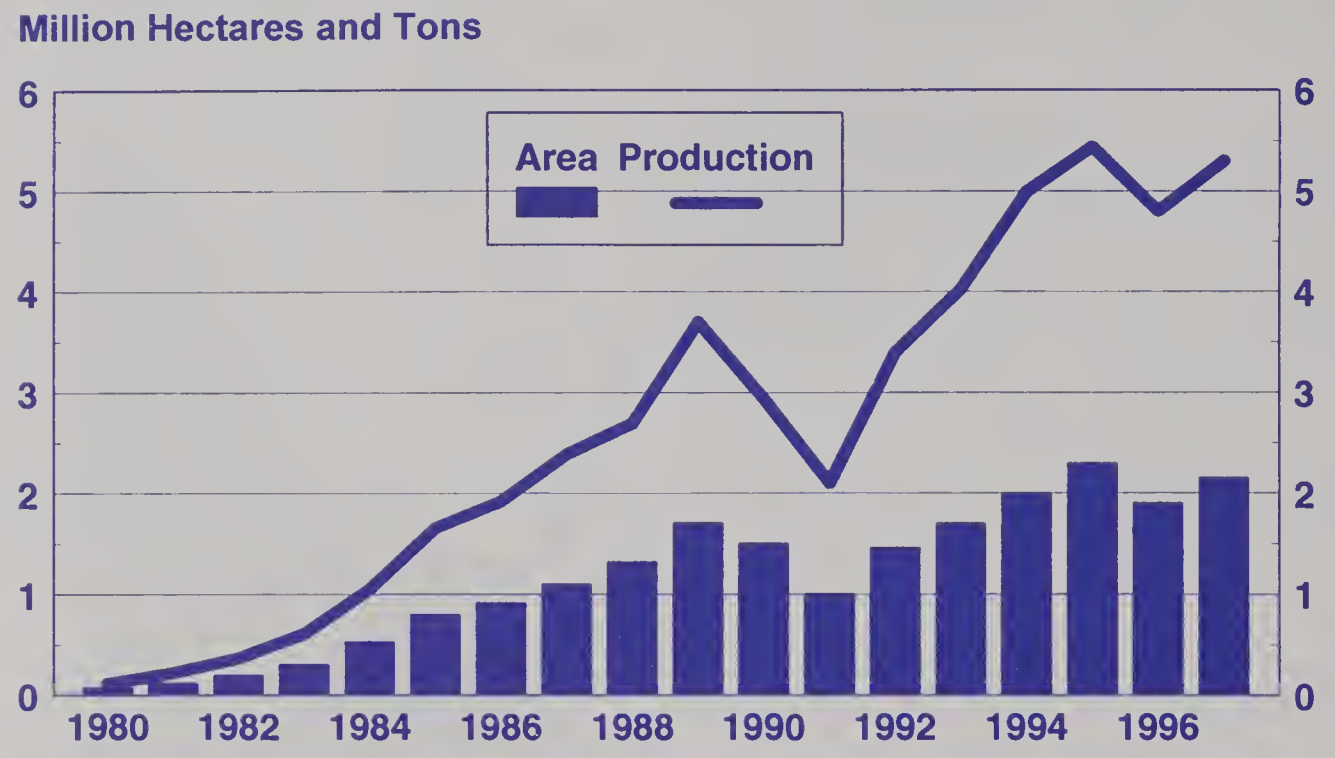
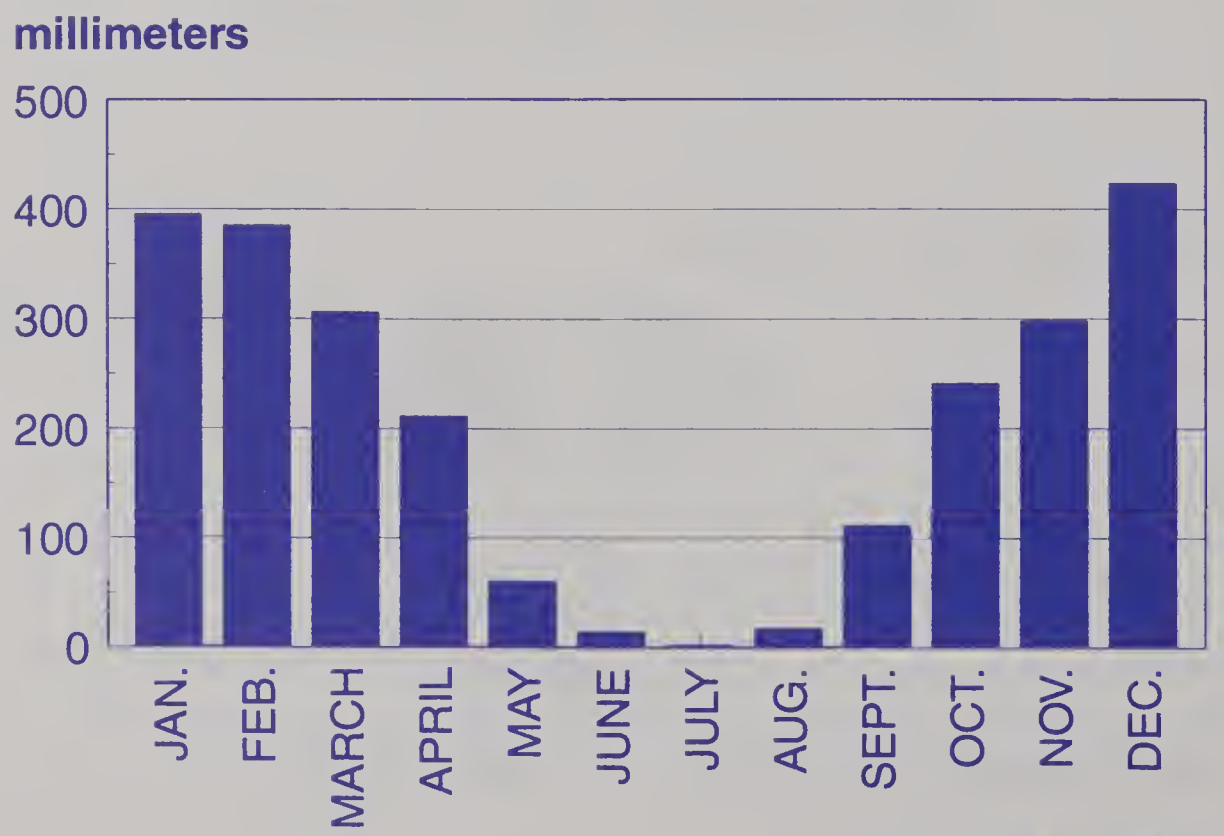


CHART 3

Rainfall in Campo Novo do Parecis, Mato Grosso, Brazil



Source: Sementes Maggi LTDA.
Average of 14 years (1983 to 1996)

BRAZIL SOYBEAN AND ARGENTINA SUMMER GRAIN AND OILSEED TRIP REPORT

Analysts from the Foreign Agricultural Service and the U.S. agricultural attaches' offices in Sao Paulo and Buenos Aires traveled through the summer oilseed and grain areas of Brazil and Argentina to assess the current agricultural situation in February 1997. Field analyses and meetings with industry groups were conducted in Mato Grosso, Rondonia, and Sao Paulo States in Brazil, and in Buenos Aires, Santa Fe, and Cordoba Provinces in Argentina. Based in part on the information obtained, the Brazilian soybean production forecast for 1996/97 was revised by the USDA to a record 27.0 million tons, up 3.3 million from last year. Argentine soybean and corn production forecasts were revised to a record 13.5 and 14.5 million tons, up 0.9 and 3.4 million from 1995/96, respectively.

Brazil: Brazil is forecast to produce a record 27.0 million tons of soybeans from 11.8 million hectares in 1996/97. Yields are forecast at a record level of 2.29 tons per hectare, up 6 percent from 1995/96. Weather throughout most of Brazil has been very beneficial to soybean production in 1996/97 with the exception of Rio Grande do Sul.

Soybeans are grown throughout Brazil, however, the largest concentration is in the southern states of Parana and Rio Grande do Sul, and in the Center-West state of Mato Grosso. Together the three states account for 67 percent of Brazil's soybean production. Parana (25 percent of production) is forecast to produce a record crop due to the highly favorable rainfall throughout the season. Harvest of the early varieties begins in March, and farmers' concerns are for too much rain. Rio Grande do Sul (22 percent of production) experienced dryness early in the season. Rainfall has been normal since and near-average yields are forecast. In Mato Grosso (20 percent of production), weather was very favorable this year. Area is expanding on the Chapada do Parecis which is located in the northwest region. Approximately 20 percent of soybeans in Mato Grosso are lower-yielding, early varieties, bringing down the state's average yield to 2.5 tons per hectare. Farmers indicated that they planted early varieties to take advantage of premium prices at harvest and to avoid trucking bottlenecks.

Brazilian soybean area for 1996/97 is estimated at 11.8 million hectares, up 0.85 million from 1995/96. Area was forecast higher in response to several factors: high international and domestic prices for soybeans and soybean products; the Brazilian Government's debt rescheduling package for farmers; the elimination of the value-added tax ("Imposto sobre Circulacao de Mercadorias e Servicos" -ICMS) on soybean and soybean product exports; and relatively high returns from the marketing year (MY) 1995/96 harvest. Nevertheless, some problems continue for soybean growers due to financial difficulties not addressed by the official debt relief package, especially in the Center-West (in the states of Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, and Goias) where farm sizes are much bigger than in southern Brazil, and indebtedness is much higher.

Producers the team interviewed were enthusiastic about no-till planting and the future use of genetically modified (GMO) soybeans. No-till planting is used to conserve soil and limit the spread of cyst nematodes in Mato Grosso, according to farmers. GMO soybeans will be available in Brazil for field testing soon. Multinational investors were reluctant to introduce them without the existence of an enforceable cultivar law which is in progress in the Brazilian Government. GMO soybeans may be commercially available for the 1999/2000 crop. GMO soybeans are expected to facilitate crop management for farmers and lower production costs.

Argentina: Argentine summer-crop production (soybeans, corn, sunflowerseed, and sorghum) is forecast at a record 35.9 million tons, up 4.5 million or 15 percent from 1995/96 production. Weather for all Argentina's summer crops has been mostly beneficial except for a period of dryness in central Santa Fe and Cordoba Provinces and the "Mal de Rio Cuarto" disease which is in some corn areas. Area for all crops increased this year by over 2 million hectares in response to strong international prices. Most of the area expansion came at the expense of pasture. Record soybean, corn, and wheat crops and large sunflowerseed and sorghum crops will severely strain Argentina's grain-handling and exporting infrastructure, according to traders.

Soybean production is estimated at a record 13.5 million tons in 1996/97, up 860,000 tons or 7 percent from 1995/96. Increased area and better

yields account for the increase. Area is estimated at a record 6.2 million hectares, up 4 percent from last year. More second-crop soybeans (soybeans following wheat directly in rotation) plus a switch from sunflowers account for the increased area. Yields are estimated at 2.18 tons per hectare, 4 percent lower than the average of 2.25 tons per hectare due to the higher proportion of second-crop soybeans. According to field surveys and traders, second-crop soybeans account for 45 percent of total soybean acreage this year, higher than the 38 percent estimated by the Government of Argentina.

Field travel during early February in central and southern Santa Fe, eastern Cordoba, and northern Buenos Aires Provinces indicated mixed results. In southern Santa Fe and northern Buenos Aires, field conditions are better than average in the fields observed. Yield potential is very high for corn, sorghum, sunflowerseed, and single-crop soybeans. In central Santa Fe, prolonged dryness has damaged soybeans, both second crop and single crop; however, this region is a marginal soybean area with less than 9 percent of total area. Second-crop soybeans were at flowering and will be affected more seriously.

Corn production for 1996/97 is forecast at a record 14.5 million tons, up 3.4 million or 31 percent from 1995/96. Planted area increased 11 percent due to strong international prices at planting (October 1996). Potential yields were above-average in nearly all fields the team surveyed in early February. Corn fields in the areas of Pergamino and Junin, in northern Buenos Aires Province, were in exceptionally good shape. Fertilizer use this year increased dramatically, from less than 30 percent of corn area receiving applications in 1995/96 to over 50 percent. In the prime corn-growing areas, 90 percent of the corn area was fertilized this year, according to field contacts. The dryness in central Santa Fe is expected to minimally impact yield potential for corn because the crucial pollination and most of grainfill stages have past. "Mal de Rio Cuarto" disease is prevalent in northwestern Buenos Aires and southern Cordoba Provinces. The disease is caused by a virus which stunts corn plants and is transmitted by insects. Dryness at planting created favorable conditions for insects. Loss of potential yield is serious for localized fields, but is expected to be between 2 to 5 percent nationally.

Sunflowerseed production for 1996/97 is forecast at 5.4 million tons, down 0.2 million or 4 percent from 1995/96. Planted area decreased 10 percent as sunflower area shifted to corn and single-crop soybeans. Yields are estimated at 1.86 tons per hectare, higher than the 5-year average of 1.70 tons per hectare. Pollination in favorable weather during late December and January and ample soil moisture account for the higher yields. Sunflowers are grown principally in northwestern Buenos Aires, southern Cordoba, and northern La Pampa Provinces. Soils in these areas are lighter and deeper, allowing an extended root zone. For areas in southern Buenos Aires, near Tandil, sunflower area is decreasing because the soils are heavier and prone to water-logging; sclerotinia problems are persistent.

Sorghum production for 1996/97 is forecast at 2.5 million tons, up 0.4 million or 21 percent from last year. Sorghum area increased marginally, less than 3 percent. Yields are forecast at 3.85 tons per hectare, higher than last year and higher than the 5-year average of 3.65 tons per hectare. More sorghum is grown on prime soils in southern Santa Fe and northern Buenos Aires. Sorghum is used in rotation with soybeans to improve the water-holding capacity of the soils. Soybean yields can be boosted by 10 percent when following sorghum in rotation, according to field contacts.

Robert Tetrault, Regional Analyst
Phone: (202) 690-0140
E-mail: tetrault@fas.usda.gov

CHART 4

Brazilian Soybeans

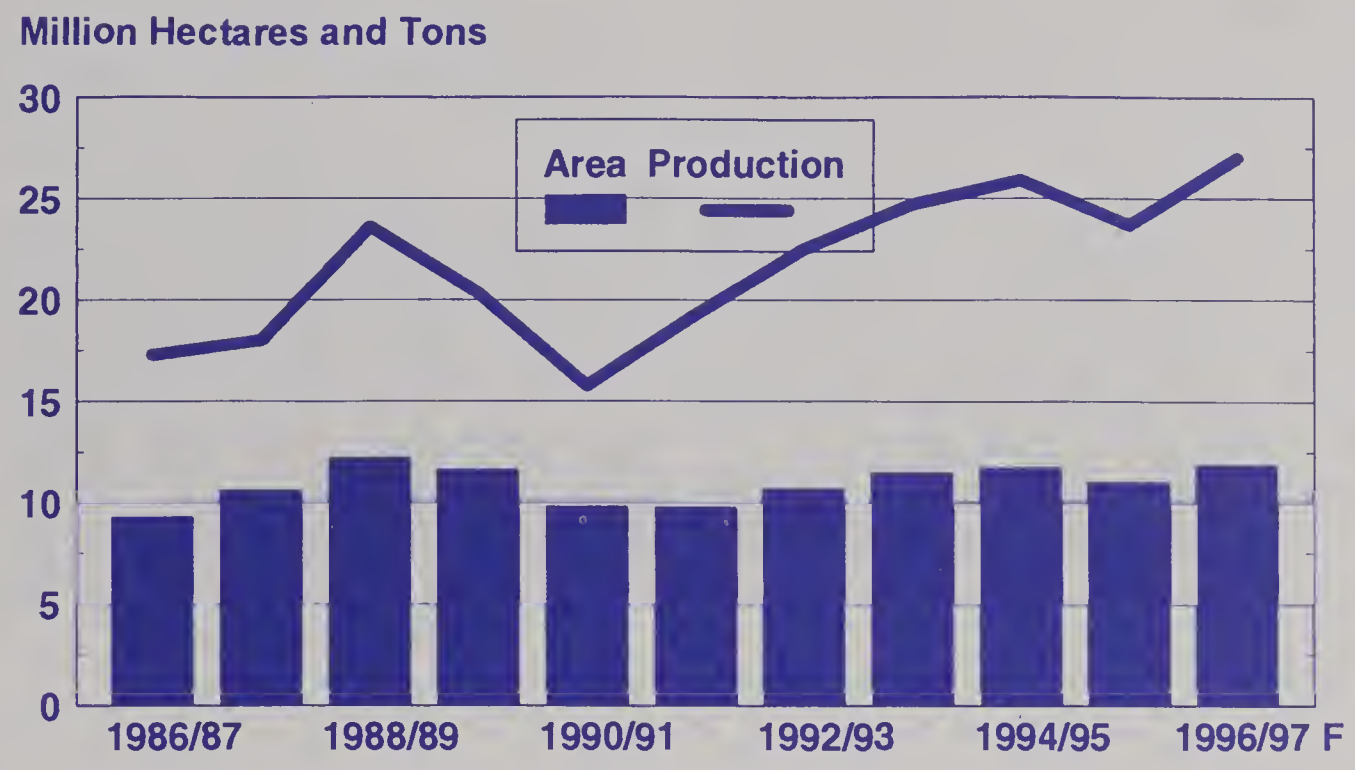


TABLE 23

Brazilian Soybeans

	Area (1,000 Hectares)	Yield (Tons/Hectare)	Production (1,000 Tons)
1986/87	9270	1.866	17300
1987/88	10550	1.708	18020
1988/89	12150	1.942	23600
1989/90	11550	1.761	20340
1990/91	9750	1.615	15750
1991/92	9700	1.99	19300
1992/93	10625	2.118	22500
1993/94	11440	2.159	24700
1994/95	11680	2.217	25900
1995/96	10950	2.164	23700
1996/97	11800	2.288	27000

CHART 5

Argentine Summer Crop Production

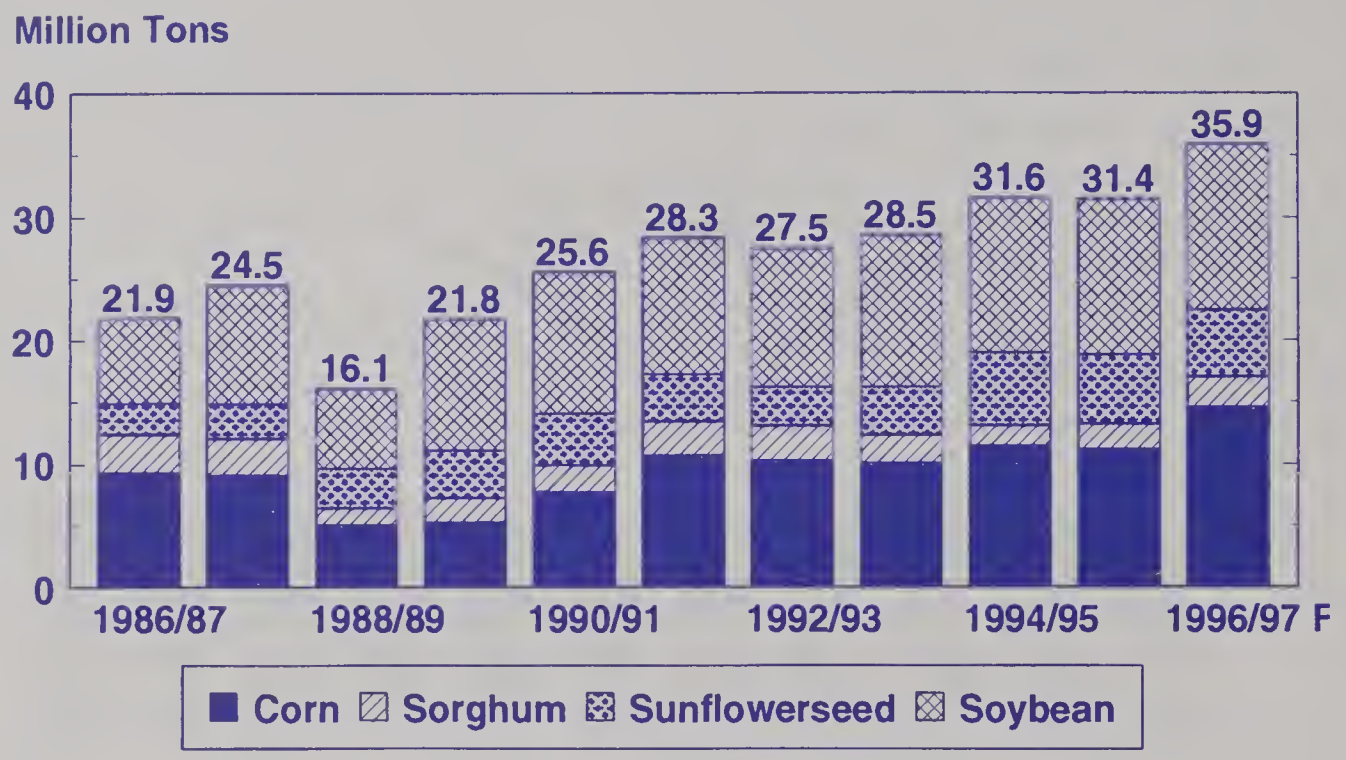


TABLE 24

Argentine Summer Crop Production

	Corn (1,000 tons)	Sorghum (1,000 tons)	Sunseed (1,000 tons)	Soybean (1,000 tons)
1986/87	9250	3100	2500	7000
1987/88	9000	3000	2800	9700
1988/89	5000	1400	3200	6500
1989/90	5200	2000	3800	10750
1990/91	7600	2250	4200	11500
1991/92	10600	2766	3800	11150
1992/93	10200	2830	3100	11350
1993/94	10000	2270	3850	12400
1994/95	11360	1650	5900	12650
1995/96	11100	2100	5600	12640
1996/97	14500	2500	5400	13500

WORLD CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR PRODUCTION

The estimate for 1996/97 world centrifugal sugar production has been revised to 124.0 million tons (raw value). This is 1 percent below the preliminary forecast released in November 1996 (WAP 11-96), but 1 percent higher than the previous record of 122.5 million tons set in 1995/96. Sugar produced from sugarcane is forecast at 86.9 million tons, up marginally from 1995/96. Sugar processed from sugarbeets is estimated at 37.1 million tons, up 4 percent from last season.

The 1996/97 estimate for India, the world's largest sugar producer, is 15.6 million tons, down 8 percent from the November forecast and down 15 percent from last season's record outturn of 18.3 million. Other major-producing countries with downward revisions in production since November include: Thailand and Pakistan, each down 200,000 tons to 6.3 and 2.6 million, respectively; Russia, down 150,000 tons to 1.75 million; and Ukraine and South Africa, each down 100,000 tons to 2.9 and 2.6 million, respectively.

Partially offsetting the sharp decline in India, the European Union's (EU-15) sugar forecast for 1996/97 has been raised 3 percent since November and 4 percent from last season. Sugar output in Brazil has been increased to an all-time high of 14.65 million tons, up 1 percent from November and 7 percent above the previous record last season. Sugar production in the Central-South and North-Northeast regions of Brazil is forecast at 11.2 and 3.5 million tons, respectively. Other major-producing countries with upward revisions in production since the November forecast include: Poland, up 246,000 tons to 2.4 million; United States, up 95,000 tons to 6.6 million; and Mexico up 100,000 tons to 4.7 million.

TABLE 25

WORLD CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR PRODUCTION

(1,000 Metric tons)

	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97 As of 11/96	1996/97 As of 3/97
Western Hemisphere				
Argentina	1,180	1,590	1,320	1,380
Brazil	12,500	13,700	14,500	14,650
Colombia	2,071	2,002	2,030	2,030
Cuba	3,300	4,450	4,600	4,600
Guatemala	1,333	1,334	1,440	1,440
Mexico	4,556	4,660	4,600	4,700
United States 1/	7,191	6,686	6,468	6,563
European Union 2/	16,533	17,005	17,244	17,724
France	4,363	4,601	4,400	4,560
Germany	3,991	4,150	4,550	4,550
Italy	1,622	1,621	1,460	1,560
Netherlands	1,050	1,085	1,100	1,120
Spain	1,214	1,195	1,200	1,250
United Kingdom	1,373	1,330	1,500	1,500
Eastern Europe				
Poland	1,492	1,714	2,200	2,446
FSU				
Russia	1,655	2,060	1,900	1,750
Ukraine	3,600	3,800	3,000	2,900
Africa				
Egypt	1,088	1,109	1,250	1,250
South Africa	1,770	1,769	2,500	2,400
Middle East				
Turkey	1,678	1,375	2,000	2,000
Asia				
China	5,900	6,750	7,000	7,000
India 3/	16,410	18,270	17,000	15,600
Indonesia	2,450	2,100	2,450	2,450
Pakistan	3,212	2,643	2,800	2,600
Philippines	1,647	1,787	1,850	1,800
Thailand	5,448	6,300	6,500	6,300
Oceania				
Australia	5,196	5,136	5,600	5,600
Others	15,552	16,214	16,737	16,771
WORLD	115,762	122,454	124,989	123,954

1/ Includes Puerto Rico. 2/ Total EU sugar production excludes French overseas departments.
3/ Includes khandsari sugar in thousands of tons (raw value equivalent) as follows: 1994/95 – 720; 1995/96 – 620; 1996/97 – 620.

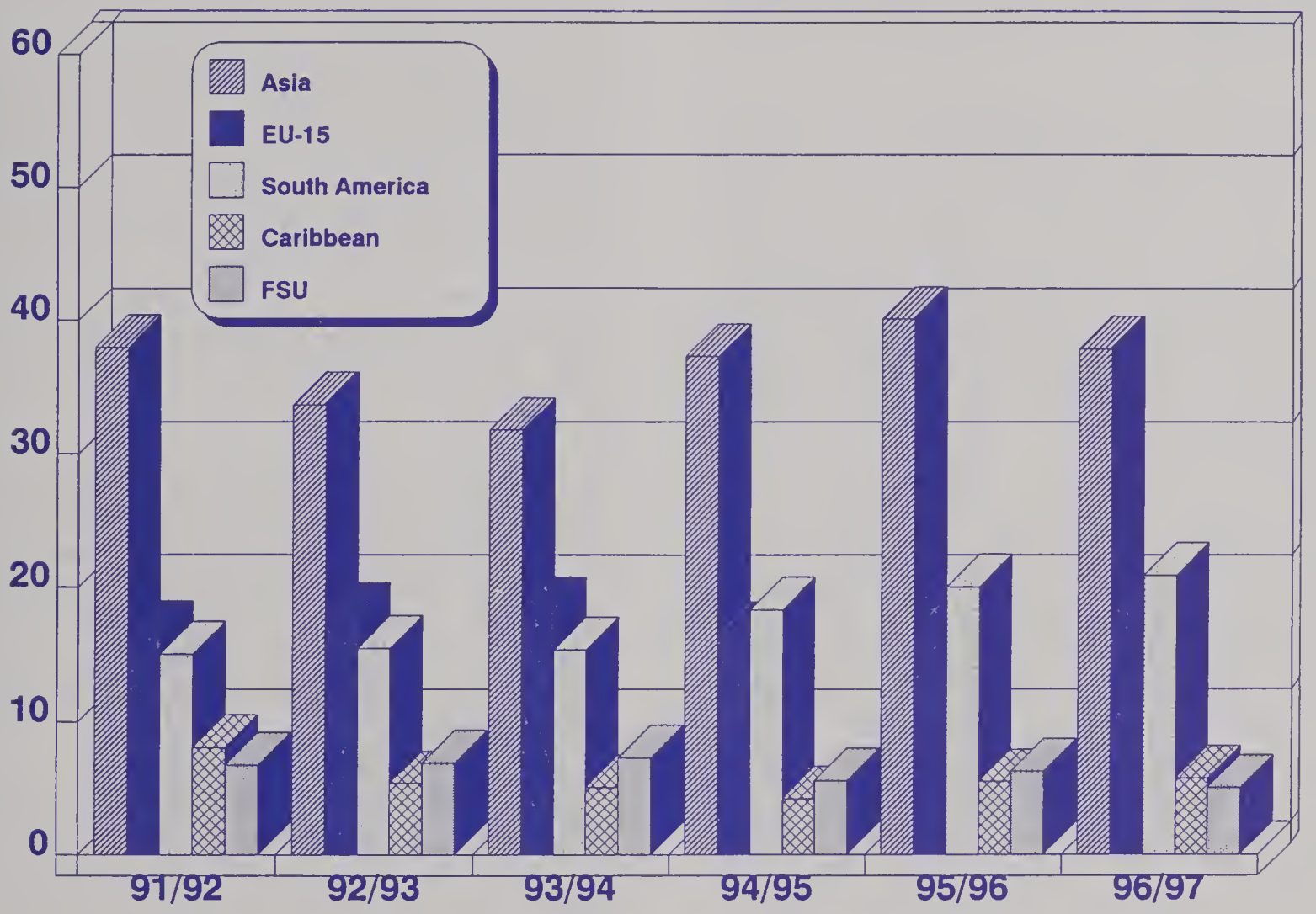
March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

CHART 6

World Centrifugal Sugar Production

(Million metric tons)



MACADAMIA NUT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

World macadamia nut production has continued to rise in the late-1990's, as yields from maturing trees increase. Output in seven of the world's leading producing countries is forecast at 64,130 tons (wet-in-shell basis), up 12 percent from 1995/96. Production is forecast to increase in all seven countries with the two largest producing countries, the United States and Australia, forecasting increases of 8 and 18 percent, respectively.

Non-bearing trees account for 42 percent of total macadamia orchard area in six foreign countries, compared to just 5 percent of U.S. macadamia plantations. Most of the new trees are in Australia and Brazil, but South Africa, Guatemala, and Costa Rica also have significant new plantings.

In this article, area and production data are reported on a split-year (July through June) basis for both Northern and Southern Hemisphere producers. The Northern Hemisphere harvest begins in July. In the Southern Hemisphere, macadamia nuts primarily are harvested beginning in February of the second half of the split year. The conversion from wet-in-shell macadamia nuts to shelled nuts is approximately 23 to 25 percent.

Australia: Macadamia nut production is forecast up 18 percent in 1996/97 (harvested March through May 1997), to 23,000 tons, making it the second-largest producing country behind the United States. The 1995/96 crop estimate (WAP 03-96) has been reduced because of heavy rains. Estimates for area planted and harvested for the three most recent years (1994/95 to 1996/97) have been revised upward significantly from last year's report based on new information from the Australian Macadamia Society. The forecasts for 1996/97 for planted and harvested area are 20,200 hectares and 11,500 hectares, respectively, more than double the previous estimates.

Yield per mature tree is 20 to 30 kilograms (wet-in-shell basis), which is similar to the yield obtained in Hawaii. However, average yields in Australia are around 10 to 15 kilograms per tree because many trees are still maturing and the trees do not thrive particularly well in Australia's harsher climate. To remedy this problem, Australian hybrids are being introduced on a trial basis. These trials are designed to select genetic material better suited to Australian conditions. Already, some macadamia nut producers are grafting new varieties onto old rootstock, shortening the time required for trees to begin bearing from 12 years to 6.

Brazil: Macadamia nut production for 1996/97 is forecast at 1,100 tons (harvested February through March 1997), up 5 percent from 1995/96 because of improved weather in the Sao Paulo and Minas Gerais producing areas. The area planted to macadamia nuts for the 1996/97 season is estimated at 6,500 hectares, with approximately 40 percent already in production. Area is expected to increase only marginally over the next 3 years because of minimal government support and limited interest in this type of nut by the Brazilian snack and bakery industries. The state of Espirito Santo, with 2,200 hectares, has the largest amount of area planted to macadamia nuts. Other major producing states are Sao Paulo, with 2,000 hectares; Minas Gerais, with 1,000; Bahia, with 900; and, Rio de Janeiro, with 200.

Costa Rica: For 1996/97, macadamia nut production is forecast to increase 9 percent, to 2,500 tons, because of better crop management. Macadamia nut output in 1995/96 has been revised from the previous estimate of 3,100 tons (WAP 3-96) to 2,300 because heavy rainfall and high humidity during flowering increased the spread of fungi.

During 1995/96, the macadamia nut industry implemented a new pricing system which penalizes producers for delivering poor-quality nuts and pays a premium for high-quality nuts. This new system resulted in better quality nuts arriving at the plants, which increased processing yields and lowered processing costs. The average producer price during 1995/96 was about US$1.10 per kilogram of dry-in-shell nuts. Macadamia nuts are harvested year-round in Costa Rica. However there are two distinct harvest periods. The heaviest off-take occurs between October and December and May

through June.

Guatemala: Macadamia nut production in 1996/97 is forecast at 2,400 tons, up 6 percent from last year. The increase is due to additional trees coming into production and higher average yields as trees mature. Nearly 67 percent of Guatemala's macadamia trees are young, non-bearing trees which will mature over the next few years.

Wet-in-shell prices paid to Guatemalan producers vary according to the kernel's humidity level and quality. In 1996, producers received between US$0.99 and US$1.10 per kilogram on a wet-in-shell basis, up from US$0.77 to US$0.88 per kilogram in 1995/96. Macadamia nuts are harvested year-round with peak production from May through August.

Kenya: The forecast for the 1996/97 macadamia nut crop is 5,400 tons, up 10 percent from last season due to additional trees coming into production. However, the projected increase is smaller than the crop's actual production potential because of insufficient rainfall during the growing season.

The bearing area increased 2 percent in 1996/97, to 5,450 hectares; another 650 hectares are planted with immature trees. A shortage of seedlings is the single most constraining factor for macadamia nut farming in Kenya. To meet the demand for seedlings, nurseries are being established throughout the country, even in non-traditional growing areas like western Kenya.

Prices paid to growers have increased significantly--from approximately US$0.21 per kilogram wet-in-shell basis in 1993/94, to US$0.42 to US$0.45 in 1996/97. The rise in prices has resulted in improved orchard management and greater fertilizer use. Normally, macadamia trees indirectly benefit from the fertilizer applied to the coffee trees with which they are intercropped, but are not the primary recipients of the fertilizer. Harvesting of macadamia nuts occurs year-round in Kenya, with the bulk taken off from March through June.

South Africa: Macadamia nut output in 1996/97 (harvested March through May 1997) is forecast up 22 percent, to 4,780 tons, as more trees reach full maturity. With nearly half the trees not yet bearing, production increases in South Africa are projected for the next decade.

As the macadamia nut industry recovered from the 1995/96 drought, there was renewed interest in expanding production and processing facilities. Export prices in 1996 rose because of favorable exchange rates, further heightening interest in the industry.

Since minimum quality standards were implemented in 1994, the Macadamia Nut Growers' Association has been working on the development of a quality seal to be applied to all macadamia products which conform to the standards. Progress has been slow as all producers will have to be incorporated, but implementation is expected soon.

United States: Macadamia nut production for the 1996/97 crop year (July-June) is estimated at a record 24,950 tons, 8 percent above 1995/96. Improved weather, coupled with continuing maturity of younger trees, helped boost yields, despite a slight decline in harvested area due to the abandonment of some marginal orchards. Harvested area is estimated at 7,770 hectares, down from 7,811 hectares in 1995/96. The preliminary grower price for wet-in-shell macadamia nuts in 1996/97 averaged US$1.68 per kilogram (net weight), up 3 percent from 1995/96.

Kelly Kirby Strzelecki, Horticulture Chairperson
Phone: (202) 720-6791
E-mail: strzelecki@fas.usda.gov

TABLE 26

MACADAMIA NUT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES
(Hectares/Metric tons, wet-in-shell basis)

	Area Planted	Area Harvested	Production
Australia			
1994/95	19,600	10,200	18,000
1995/96	20,000	11,000	19,500
1996/97 1/	20,100	11,500	23,000
Brazil			
1994/95	6,000	2,000	950
1995/96	6,300	2,480	1,050
1996/97 1/	6,500	2,600	1,100
Costa Rica			
1994/95	6,600	3,500	2,300
1995/96	6,000	4,000	2,300
1996/97 1/	6,000	4,000	2,500
Guatemala			
1994/95	3,080	950	2,130
1995/96	3,200	1,000	2,272
1996/97 1/	3,300	1,100	2,400
Kenya			
1994/95	5,750	5,100	4,100
1995/96	6,050	5,360	4,900
1996/97 1/	6,100	5,450	5,400
South Africa 2/			
1994/95	4,300	2,150	2,455
1995/96	4,500	2,250	3,920
1996/97 1/	4,600	2,325	4,780
United States			
1994/95	8,175	7,487	23,810
1995/96	8,215	7,811	23,130
1996/97 1/	8,175	7,770	24,950
Total			
1994/95	53,505	31,387	53,745
1995/96	54,265	33,901	57,072
1996/97 1/	54,775	34,745	64,130

1/ Preliminary

2/ Production estimates converted from dry-inshell assuming 12 percent average moisture.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

Red meat production for 1997 in selected countries has been revised to 133.81 million tons, up 4 percent from the October forecast of 128.53 million mainly due to larger-than-expected output in China and the European Union. The production estimate for 1996 has been raised 1 percent, to 132.61 million tons, mainly because of larger output of red meat in Brazil and China.

Cattle Inventories and Beef Production

Cattle numbers were reported at 1.05 billion head at the start of 1997, down 4.22 million from 1996 due to herd reductions in the United States, the European Union, the former Soviet Union, and Argentina. Beef and veal production for 1997 is forecast at 47.73 million tons, up 1 percent from 1996 as production continues to expand in Brazil and China due to strong domestic demand.

Hog Inventories and Pork Production

Hog inventories for the selected countries totaled 777.28 million head at the start of 1997, 8.21 million head below the starting 1996 inventory primarily because of high feed prices in China, Poland, Russia, and the United States. The European Union has recorded the largest growth in inventories due to increased demand for pork because of the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) problem. Pork production is estimated at 79.10 million tons, up 1 percent from 1996 due to expansion in the European Union and China.

Sheep Inventories and Sheep/Goat Meat Production

Sheep numbers at the start of 1997 in the selected countries were reported at 904.83 million head, up 4 percent from the October forecast and up 1 percent from last year. Growth was greatest in South Africa and Australia where slaughter is down due to herd-rebuilding, and in China where demand remains strong. Sheep and goat meat production for 1997 is forecast at 6.98 million tons, up 3 percent from last year primarily because of significantly larger production in China.

TABLE 27

RED MEAT PRODUCTION, SELECTED COUNTRIES 1/

(1,000 Metric tons-carcass weight equivalent)

	1994	1995 2/	1996 3/	1997 4/	1997 5/
Canada	2,137	2,209	2,255	2,395	2,376
Mexico	2,852	2,934	2,811	2,807	2,808
United States	19,361	19,820	19,652	20,126	19,593
NORTH AMERICA	24,350	24,963	24,718	25,328	24,777
Costa Rica	94	93	93	92	92
Dominican Republic	46	48	49	50	50
El Salvador	27	27	26	26	26
Guatemala	48	50	53	54	54
Honduras	45	29	28	29	29
Nicaragua	54	50	49	49	49
CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN	314	297	298	300	300
Argentina	2,682	2,668	2,606	2,555	2,555
Brazil	5,850	6,200	6,520	6,730	6,830
Colombia	566	604	617	637	637
Uruguay	368	344	370	390	390
Venezuela	370	347	354	354	354
SOUTH AMERICA	9,836	10,163	10,467	10,666	10,766
Austria	683	653	654	660	660
Belgium-Luxembourg	1,367	1,422	1,374	1,403	1,415
Denmark	1,755	1,702	1,711	1,744	1,762
France	3,868	3,941	4,018	4,002	4,015
Germany	5,092	5,053	5,090	4,423	5,123
Greece	357	362	366	369	369
Ireland	753	775	826	812	875
Italy	2,618	2,602	2,533	2,540	2,550
Netherlands	2,276	2,203	2,199	2,050	2,195
Portugal	498	437	429	429	429
Spain	2,825	2,925	2,895	2,932	2,932
Sweden	448	454	457	443	443
United Kingdom	2,323	2,359	2,053	2,131	2,066
EUROPEAN UNION	24,863	24,888	24,605	23,938	24,834
Switzerland	388	398	363	353	353
WESTERN EUROPE	388	398	363	353	353
Bulgaria	423	411	402	356	356
Czech Republic	1000	973	978	1025	1025
Hungary	494	400	690	725	725
Poland	1,771	1,988	1,994	1,819	1,827
Romania	804	642	667	682	682
EASTERN EUROPE	4,492	4,414	4,731	4,607	4,615
Kazakhstan	894	754	643	460	576
Russia	5,659	4,860	4,439	4,260	4,091
Ukraine	2,387	2,033	1,882	1,745	1,785
FORMER SOVIET UNION	8,940	7,647	6,964	6,465	6,452
Saudi Arabia	227	215	212	213	213
Turkey	946	995	975	972	972
MIDDLE EAST	1,173	1,210	1,187	1,185	1,185
Egypt	475	483	513	534	534
South Africa	715	688	704	733	733
AFRICA	1,190	1,171	1,217	1,267	1,267
China	36,968	42,653	47,000	43,100	48,100
Hong Kong	199	187	184	208	180
India	1,665	1,852	1,920	1,982	1,982
Japan	1,992	1,923	1,821	1,800	1,770
Korea, Republic of	986	1,013	1,096	1,126	1,126
Philippines	850	893	946	982	982
Singapore	87	85	83	80	80
Taiwan	1,209	1,239	1,276	1,281	1,281
ASIA	43,956	49,845	54,326	50,559	55,501
Australia	2,807	2,644	2,597	2,813	2,681
New Zealand	1,079	1,152	1,135	1,050	1,080
OCEANIA	3,886	3,796	3,732	3,863	3,761
TOTAL	123,388	128,792	132,608	128,531	133,811

1/ Includes beef, veal, pork, sheep, and goat meat. 2/ Revised. 3/ Estimate. 4/ Forecast October 1996.
5/ Forecast March 1997.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

CATTLE AND BUFFALO INVENTORIES, SELECTED COUNTRIES
(1,000 Head-January 1)

	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	12,254	12,849	13,186	13,144	12,767
Mexico	30,702	30,191	28,141	27,286	26,900
United States	100,988	102,755	103,487	102,083	101,209
NORTH AMERICA	143,944	145,795	144,814	142,513	140,876
Costa Rica	1,693	1,645	1,585	1,525	1,525
Dominican Republic	1,983	1,984	1,985	1,986	1,986
El Salvador	1,312	1,319	1,299	1,287	1,287
Guatemala	1,762	1,717	1,697	1,667	1,667
Honduras	2,286	2,205	2,182	2,152	2,152
Nicaragua	1,630	1,600	1,650	1,665	1,665
CENTRAL AMER & CARIBBEAN	10,666	10,470	10,398	10,282	10,282
Argentina	54,875	54,207	53,569	51,691	51,821
Brazil	144,900	148,278	151,544	153,200	153,200
Colombia	16,614	16,725	16,768	16,852	16,852
Uruguay	10,477	10,512	10,436	10,600	10,600
Venezuela	14,000	14,000	14,216	14,402	14,402
SOUTH AMERICA	240,866	243,722	246,533	246,745	246,875
Austria	2,334	2,328	2,325	2,327	2,327
Belgium-Luxembourg	3,289	3,365	3,159	3,445	2,709
Denmark	2,115	2,082	2,094	2,075	2,075
France	20,112	20,524	20,662	20,800	20,700
Germany	15,897	15,962	15,890	15,700	15,700
Greece	619	624	640	655	655
Ireland	6,308	6,410	6,532	6,663	6,757
Italy	7,560	7,300	7,100	7,000	6,900
Netherlands	4,629	4,588	4,557	4,500	4,500
Portugal	1,322	1,329	1,316	1,290	1,290
Spain	5,017	5,252	5,512	5,660	5,660
Sweden	1,826	1,777	1,781	1,770	1,770
United Kingdom	11,709	11,868	11,619	11,350	11,260
EUROPEAN UNION	82,737	83,409	83,187	83,235	82,303
Switzerland	1,745	1,762	1,770	1,780	1,780
WESTERN EUROPE	1,745	1,762	1,770	1,780	1,780
Bulgaria	750	638	632	550	550
Czech Republic	2,167	2,031	1,989	1,970	1,970
Poland	7,270	7,120	7,193	7,250	6,983
Romania	3,597	3,565	3,660	3,700	3,700
EASTERN EUROPE	13,784	13,354	13,474	13,470	13,203
Kazakhstan	9,347	8,073	6,868	5,015	5,838
Russia	48,914	43,296	39,694	36,500	36,000
Ukraine	21,607	19,624	17,557	15,800	15,626
FORMER SOVIET UNION	79,868	70,993	64,119	57,315	57,464
Turkey	11,800	11,700	11,700	11,700	11,700
MIDDLE EAST	11,800	11,700	11,700	11,700	11,700
Egypt	5,700	5,873	6,101	6,300	6,300
South Africa	12,506	12,632	13,334	13,850	13,850
AFRICA	18,206	18,505	19,435	20,150	20,150
China	113,157	123,317	132,058	128,161	137,000
India	272,655	274,155	276,105	277,045	277,045
Japan	4,990	4,916	4,828	4,800	4,795
Korea, Republic of	2,814	2,945	3,147	3,463	3,423
Philippines	4,495	4,570	4,650	4,736	4,736
Taiwan	166	164	165	165	165
ASIA	398,277	410,067	420,953	418,370	427,164
Australia	25,758	25,736	26,500	26,600	26,750
New Zealand	8,308	8,712	8,811	9,022	8,930
OCEANIA	34,066	34,448	35,311	35,622	35,680
TOTAL	1,035,959	1,044,225	1,051,694	1,041,182	1,047,477

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast October 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 29

BEEF AND VEAL PRODUCTION, SELECTED COUNTRIES

(1,000 Metric tons-carcass weight equivalent)

	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	903	928	1,015	1,120	1,130
Mexico	1,810	1,850	1,800	1,800	1,800
United States	11,194	11,585	11,750	12,032	11,703
NORTH AMERICA	13,907	14,363	14,565	14,952	14,633
Costa Rica	94	93	93	92	92
Dominican Republic	46	48	49	50	50
El Salvador	27	27	26	26	26
Guatemala	48	50	53	54	54
Honduras	45	29	28	29	29
Nicaragua	54	50	49	49	49
CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN	314	297	298	300	300
Argentina	2,600	2,600	2,550	2,500	2,500
Brazil	4,550	4,750	4,960	5,150	5,150
Colombia	566	604	617	637	637
Uruguay	368	344	370	390	390
Venezuela	370	347	354	354	354
SOUTH AMERICA	8,454	8,645	8,851	9,031	9,031
Austria	212	196	190	192	192
Belgium-Luxembourg	356	365	344	335	345
Denmark	190	185	183	184	181
France	1,588	1,648	1,673	1,650	1,600
Germany	1,447	1,407	1,445	1,380	1,440
Greece	83	85	86	88	88
Ireland	445	480	530	512	575
Italy	1,170	1,181	1,100	1,100	1,110
Netherlands	603	580	580	490	575
Portugal	122	105	94	101	101
Spain	478	508	485	500	500
Sweden	141	144	142	139	139
United Kingdom	918	976	712	750	713
EUROPEAN UNION	7,753	7,860	7,564	7,421	7,559
Switzerland	142	147	139	138	138
WESTERN EUROPE	142	147	139	138	138
Bulgaria	95	87	94	69	69
Czech Republic	345	323	318	315	315
Poland	405	400	388	415	373
Romania	170	150	175	180	180
EASTERN EUROPE	1,015	960	975	979	937
Kazakhstan	642	548	482	385	439
Russia	3,240	2,734	2,543	2,400	2,390
Ukraine	1,427	1,186	1,079	940	993
FORMER SOVIET UNION	5,309	4,468	4,104	3,725	3,822
Saudi Arabia	30	26	20	20	20
Turkey	574	623	609	609	609
MIDDLE EAST	604	649	629	629	629
Egypt	392	402	430	450	450
South Africa	581	542	548	580	580
AFRICA	973	944	978	1,030	1,030
China	3,270	4,154	4,700	4,700	5,000
India	1,050	1,230	1,290	1,345	1,345
Japan	602	601	557	570	545
Korea, Republic of	200	214	231	256	256
Philippines	135	139	148	157	157
Taiwan	5	6	6	6	6
ASIA	5,262	6,344	6,932	7,034	7,309
Australia	1,829	1,717	1,680	1,862	1,730
New Zealand	566	630	631	587	610
OCEANIA	2,395	2,347	2,311	2,449	2,340
TOTAL	46,128	47,024	47,346	47,688	47,728

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast October 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assesssment Division, FAS, USDA

HOG INVENTORIES, SELECTED COUNTRIES

(1,000 Head-January 1)

	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	10,851	11,673	12,097	11,800	12,010
Mexico	12,083	12,513	11,118	10,218	10,218
United States	57,904	59,990	58,264	57,350	56,171
NORTH AMERICA	80,838	84,176	81,479	79,368	78,399
Brazil	31,200	31,338	32,497	32,739	32,739
SOUTH AMERICA	31,200	31,338	32,497	32,739	32,739
Austria	3,820	3,729	3,706	3,780	3,780
Belgium-Luxembourg	6,948	7,060	7,153	7,145	7,345
Denmark	10,870	10,864	10,709	10,923	11,079
France	14,791	14,593	14,524	14,640	14,800
Germany	26,075	24,698	23,736	22,800	24,500
Greece	1,144	1,094	1,070	1,028	1,028
Ireland	1,487	1,498	1,542	1,631	1,631
Italy	8,348	8,000	7,964	7,900	7,900
Netherlands	13,991	13,931	13,958	14,000	14,000
Portugal	2,665	2,416	2,400	2,435	2,435
Spain	18,234	18,295	18,600	18,000	18,700
Sweden	2,328	2,313	2,330	2,200	2,200
United Kingdom	7,869	7,879	7,351	7,650	7,600
EUROPEAN UNION	118,570	116,370	115,043	114,132	116,998
Switzerland	1,692	1,646	1,425	1,296	1,296
WESTERN EUROPE	1,692	1,646	1,425	1,296	1,296
Bulgaria	2,071	1,986	2,140	2,081	2,081
Czech Republic	4,035	3,862	3,805	4,026	4,026
Hungary	5,001	4,356	5,032	5,300	5,300
Poland	17,422	19,138	20,343	18,000	17,680
Romania	9,262	7,727	7,797	7,850	7,850
EASTERN EUROPE	37,791	37,069	39,117	37,257	36,937
Russia	28,600	24,859	22,600	20,500	19,888
Ukraine	15,298	13,946	13,144	12,750	12,566
FORMER SOVIET UNION	43,898	38,805	35,744	33,250	32,454
China	393,000	414,619	441,692	408,516	440,000
Japan	10,622	10,250	9,900	9,700	9,700
Korea, Republic of	5,928	5,955	6,461	6,950	6,384
Philippines	8,227	8,941	9,023	9,078	9,078
Taiwan	9,845	10,066	10,510	10,700	10,698
ASIA	427,622	449,831	477,586	444,944	475,860
Australia	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
OCEANIA	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
TOTAL	744,211	761,835	785,491	745,586	777,283

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast October 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

PORK PRODUCTION, SELECTED COUNTRIES

(1,000 Metric tons-carcass weight equivalent)

	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	1,234	1,281	1,240	1,275	1,246
Mexico	900	954	890	890	895
United States	8,027	8,097	7,765	7,955	7,751
NORTH AMERICA	10,161	10,332	9,895	10,120	9,892
Brazil	1,300	1,450	1,560	1,580	1,680
CENTRAL & SO AMERICA	1,300	1,450	1,560	1,580	1,680
Austria	471	457	464	468	468
Belgium-Luxembourg	1,011	1,057	1,030	1,068	1,070
Denmark	1,565	1,517	1,528	1,560	1,581
France	2,126	2,145	2,193	2,200	2,260
Germany	3,604	3,604	3,602	3,000	3,640
Greece	144	147	149	151	151
Ireland	215	206	205	213	213
Italy	1,369	1,345	1,355	1,360	1,360
Netherlands	1,673	1,623	1,619	1,560	1,620
Portugal	344	305	308	301	301
Spain	2,107	2,175	2,180	2,200	2,200
Sweden	307	310	315	304	304
United Kingdom	1,053	1,017	995	1,035	1,010
EUROPEAN UNION	15,989	15,908	15,943	15,420	16,178
Switzerland	246	251	224	215	215
WESTERN EUROPE	246	251	224	215	215
Bulgaria	267	265	251	238	238
Czech Republic	655	650	660	710	710
Hungary	494	400	690	725	725
Poland	1,358	1,580	1,600	1,400	1,450
Romania	565	421	432	440	440
EASTERN EUROPE	3,339	3,316	3,633	3,513	3,563
Russia	2,103	1,865	1,679	1,640	1,511
Ukraine	916	807	767	770	759
FORMER SOVIET UNION	3,019	2,672	2,446	2,410	2,270
China	32,048	36,484	40,000	36,000	40,500
Hong Kong	199	187	184	208	180
Japan	1,390	1,322	1,264	1,230	1,225
Korea, Republic of	786	799	865	870	870
Philippines	715	754	798	825	825
Singapore	87	85	83	80	80
Taiwan	1,204	1,233	1,270	1,275	1,275
ASIA	36,429	40,864	44,464	40,488	44,955
Australia	344	351	337	348	348
OCEANIA	344	351	337	348	348
TOTAL	70,827	75,144	78,502	74,094	79,101

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast October 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 32

SHEEP INVENTORIES, SELECTED COUNTRIES
(1,000 Head-January 1)

	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
United States	9,714	8,886	8,461	8,303	7,937
NORTH AMERICA	9,714	8,886	8,461	8,303	7,937
Argentina	23,500	21,626	17,956	17,306	17,306
SOUTH AMERICA	23,500	21,626	17,956	17,306	17,306
France 5/	11,505	11,385	11,140	11,390	11,190
Germany	2,369	2,340	2,437	2,440	2,440
Greece	9,604	9,559	9,386	9,201	9,201
Ireland	5,991	5,772	5,583	5,353	5,353
Italy 5/	11,835	12,070	12,000	12,000	12,000
Portugal 5/	4,141	4,235	4,239	4,230	4,230
Spain	23,872	23,058	21,322	22,100	21,400
United Kingdom	29,333	29,484	28,797	28,720	28,750
EUROPEAN UNION	98,650	97,903	94,904	95,434	94,664
Bulgaria	4,439	4,193	4,216	4,070	4,070
Poland	972	766	608	600	500
Romania	12,276	12,119	11,529	11,500	11,500
EASTERN EUROPE	17,687	17,078	16,353	16,170	16,070
Kazakhstan 5/	34,208	25,132	19,600	14,200	14,896
Russia 5/	43,700	34,500	28,336	23,800	23,519
Ukraine 5/	6,863	5,575	4,080	2,870	2,925
FORMER SOVIET UNION	84,771	65,207	52,016	40,870	41,340
Saudia Arabia	7,257	7,321	7,461	7,578	7,578
Turkey	44,000	43,000	42,400	41,800	41,800
MIDDLE EAST	51,257	50,321	49,861	49,378	49,378
Egypt	3,767	3,648	3,491	3,546	3,546
South Africa 5/	33,800	33,385	35,145	37,310	37,310
AFRICA	37,567	37,033	38,636	40,856	40,856
China 5/	217,314	240,528	276,857	264,326	296,000
India 5/	163,156	164,242	165,384	166,010	166,010
ASIA	380,470	404,770	442,241	430,336	462,010
Australia	132,569	123,210	126,320	128,100	128,100
New Zealand	50,298	50,135	48,816	47,050	47,264
OCEANIA	182,867	173,345	175,136	175,150	175,364
TOTAL	886,483	876,169	895,564	873,803	904,825

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast October 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997. 5/ Includes goats.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

LAMB, MUTTON, GOAT MEAT PRODUCTION, SELECTED COUNTRIES

(1,000 Metric tons-carcass weight equivalent)

	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Mexico	142	138	137	139	139
United States	140	130	121	117	113
NORTH AMERICA	282	268	258	256	252
Argentina	82	68	56	55	55
SOUTH AMERICA	82	68	56	55	55
France	154	148	152	152	155
Germany	41	42	43	43	43
Greece	130	130	131	130	130
Ireland	93	89	91	87	87
Italy	79	76	78	80	80
Portugal	32	27	27	27	27
Spain	240	242	230	232	232
United Kingdom	352	366	346	346	343
EUROPEAN UNION	1,121	1,120	1,098	1,097	1,097
Bulgaria	61	59	57	49	49
Poland	8	8	6	4	4
Romania	69	71	60	62	62
EASTERN EUROPE	138	138	123	115	115
Kazakhstan	252	206	161	75	137
Russia	316	261	217	220	190
Ukraine	44	40	36	35	33
FORMER SOVIET UNION	612	507	414	330	360
Saudi Arabia	197	189	192	193	193
Turkey	372	372	366	363	363
MIDDLE EAST	569	561	558	556	556
Egypt	83	81	83	84	84
South Africa	134	146	156	153	153
AFRICA	217	227	239	237	237
China	1,650	2,015	2,300	2,400	2,600
India	615	622	630	637	637
ASIA	2,265	2,637	2,930	3,037	3,237
Australia	634	576	580	603	603
New Zealand	513	522	504	463	470
OCEANIA	1,147	1,098	1,084	1,066	1,073
TOTAL	6,433	6,624	6,760	6,749	6,982

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast October 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

Total poultry meat production for 1997 in the selected countries is estimated at 52.89 million tons, up 6 percent from 1996 due to rising demand and a shift in consumer preference away from red meat. Broiler meat production is expected to reach 36.28 million tons in 1997, up 6 percent from 1996 mainly due to rising output in Brazil, China, and the United States and potentially lower grain prices. Turkey meat production has been trending upward for the past 4 years. Output in the selected countries for 1997 is estimated at 4.60 million tons, with the most significant increases anticipated in Brazil, the European Union, Poland, and the United States.

TABLE 34

TOTAL POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES
(1,000 Metric tons)

	1993	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	741	829	861	891	862	917
Mexico	1,422	1,483	1,554	1,590	1,210	1,680
United States	12,396	13,206	13,786	14,516	15,252	15,285
NORTH AMERICA	14,559	15,518	16,201	16,997	17,324	17,882
Guatemala	85	95	104	110	116	116
Honduras	39	40	41	41	41	41
CENTRAL AMERICA	124	135	145	151	157	157
Argentina	630	675	700	660	680	680
Brazil	3,211	3,491	4,140	4,160	4,510	4,330
Colombia	497	514	537	591	633	633
Venezuela	350	365	410	406	402	402
SOUTH AMERICA	4,688	5,045	5,787	5,817	6,225	6,045
Belgium-Luxembourg	196	219	251	264	259	259
Denmark	162	172	168	170	175	175
France	1,875	1,961	2,083	2,165	2,255	2,230
Germany	615	641	655	657	662	662
Greece	173	175	178	179	181	181
Ireland	88	97	101	105	106	106
Italy	1,061	1,084	1,123	1,168	1,158	1,158
Netherlands	565	594	641	690	669	710
Portugal	238	248	235	247	247	247
Spain	840	880	910	920	920	920
United Kingdom	1,244	1,289	1,330	1,372	1,408	1,408
EUROPEAN UNION	7,057	7,360	7,675	7,937	8,040	8,056
Hungary	307	320	368	365	370	370
Poland	300	345	367	380	390	390
Romania	160	135	160	180	200	200
EASTERN EUROPE	767	800	895	925	960	960
Russia	1,277	1,068	859	765	780	719
Ukraine	362	265	235	212	212	195
FORMER SOVIET UNION	1,639	1,333	1,094	977	992	914
Israel	224	242	249	251	256	256
Kuwait	18	18	20	22	24	24
Saudi Arabia	285	286	309	340	438	438
Turkey	350	330	390	435	475	475
United Arab Emirates	16	18	20	21	22	22
MIDDLE EAST	893	894	988	1,069	1,215	1,215
Egypt	295	345	360	380	390	390
South Africa	641	667	736	789	830	830
AFRICA	936	1,012	1,096	1,169	1,220	1,220
China	5,736	7,550	9,347	11,000	12,500	12,500
Hong Kong	20	16	94	88	18	90
Japan	1,368	1,258	1,282	1,241	1,250	1,240
Korea, Republic of	369	378	415	425	435	435
Singapore	62	57	60	61	62	62
Taiwan	585	604	630	655	655	655
Thailand	685	740	825	890	915	945
ASIA	8,825	10,603	12,653	14,360	15,835	15,927
Australia	467	498	500	503	510	510
OCEANIA	467	498	500	503	510	510
TOTAL 5/	39,955	43,198	47,034	49,905	52,478	52,886

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast August 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997. 5/ Total includes 41 countries.

March 1997

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

BROILER MEAT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES
(1,000 Metric tons)

	1993	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	613	696	695	722	720	750
Mexico	1,364	1,383	1,435	1,451	1,120	1,550
United States	9,986	10,735	11,261	11,844	12,552	12,529
NORTH AMERICA	11,963	12,814	13,391	14,017	14,392	14,829
Argentina	620	660	690	650	670	670
Brazil	3,143	3,411	4,050	4,060	4,400	4,220
Colombia	469	484	503	553	592	592
SOUTH AMERICA	4,232	4,555	5,243	5,263	5,662	5,482
Belgium–Luxembourg	175	195	242	255	250	250
Denmark	145	152	149	155	157	157
France	1,046	1,070	1,095	1,151	1,190	1,190
Germany	349	362	352	350	355	355
Greece	144	146	145	146	148	148
Ireland	60	65	67	70	70	70
Italy	635	653	666	693	683	683
Netherlands	487	521	568	616	595	635
Portugal	206	213	188	200	200	200
Spain	764	804	830	840	840	840
United Kingdom	971	970	982	1,016	1,042	1,042
EUROPEAN UNION	4,982	5,151	5,284	5,492	5,530	5,570
Hungary	200	208	248	218	225	225
Poland	150	175	185	190	196	196
Romania	145	117	140	160	175	175
EASTERN EUROPE	495	500	573	568	596	596
Russia	540	440	340	273	320	259
Ukraine	230	210	190	170	170	170
FORMER SOVIET UNION	770	650	530	443	490	429
Israel	147	156	163	172	180	180
Kuwait	18	18	20	22	24	24
Saudi Arabia	275	276	298	328	423	423
United Arab Emirates	16	18	20	21	22	22
MIDDLE EAST	456	468	501	543	649	649
Egypt	242	292	324	340	350	350
South Africa	572	580	603	647	680	680
AFRICA	814	872	927	987	1,030	1,030
China	2,800	3,300	3,700	4,400	5,100	5,100
Hong Kong	17	13	70	68	16	67
Japan	1,252	1,145	1,171	1,133	1,140	1,130
Singapore	51	48	50	51	52	52
Thailand	650	700	780	840	860	890
ASIA	4,770	5,206	5,771	6,492	7,168	7,239
Australia	420	448	450	453	459	459
OCEANIA	420	448	450	453	459	459
TOTAL 5/	28,902	30,664	32,670	34,258	35,976	36,283

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast August 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997. 5/ Total includes 36 countries.

TABLE 36

TURKEY MEAT PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES
(1,000 Metric tons)

	1993	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	128	133	141	144	142	142
Mexico	9	9	10	11	10	12
United States	2,176	2,239	2,299	2,450	2,465	2,521
NORTH AMERICA	2,313	2,381	2,450	2,605	2,617	2,675
Brazil	63	80	90	100	110	110
SOUTH AMERICA	63	80	90	100	110	110
Belgium–Luxembourg	4	4	7	7	7	7
Denmark	9	9	10	10	11	11
France	532	568	650	665	705	680
Germany	169	183	206	215	220	220
Greece	3	3	3	3	3	3
Ireland	26	30	32	33	34	34
Italy	266	269	294	310	310	310
Netherlands	30	32	28	27	28	27
Portugal	31	31	42	42	42	42
Spain	19	13	17	17	18	18
United Kingdom	252	253	272	280	290	290
EUROPEAN UNION	1,341	1,395	1,561	1,609	1,668	1,642
Hungary	25	24	25	27	28	28
Poland	33	34	42	49	55	55
EASTERN EUROPE	58	58	67	76	83	83
Russia	35	30	25	22	20	20
FORMER SOVIET UNION	35	30	25	22	20	20
Israel	77	86	85	79	76	76
Middle East	77	86	85	79	76	76
TOTAL 5/	3,887	4,030	4,278	4,491	4,574	4,606

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast August 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997. 5/ Total includes 20 countries.

EGG PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES

In 1997, egg production in the selected countries--consisting mainly of chicken eggs--is estimated at 733.84 billion eggs, up 5 percent from 1996. Most of the growth in this industry in recent years has been in China where strong economic growth, low grain prices, and rising demand for low-priced protein products is expected to boost egg production in 1997 to a record 385.00 billion eggs, more than half of the world's total egg production.

TABLE 37

EGG PRODUCTION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES
(Million eggs)

	1993	1994	1995 1/	1996 2/	1997 3/	1997 4/
Canada	5,689	5,736	5,792	5,835	5,815	5,900
Mexico	21,471	25,896	25,760	26,000	21,000	26,500
United States	72,072	74,136	74,592	76,296	78,600	79,080
NORTH AMERICA	99,232	105,768	106,144	108,131	105,415	111,480
Brazil	12,700	13,460	16,065	16,870	18,220	18,220
Colombia	6,433	6,357	6,912	7,365	7,760	7,760
SOUTH AMERICA	19,133	19,817	22,977	24,235	25,980	25,980
Belgium-Luxembourg	3,324	3,600	3,858	3,700	3,600	3,600
Denmark	1,405	1,382	1,474	1,500	1,600	1,600
France	15,355	16,370	16,911	16,650	16,960	16,960
Germany	13,678	13,960	13,847	13,700	13,700	13,700
Greece	2,540	2,500	2,600	2,650	2,640	2,640
Ireland	655	605	610	612	614	614
Italy	11,502	11,599	12,017	11,800	11,900	11,900
Netherlands	10,019	10,306	9,970	9,880	10,100	9,800
Portugal	1,787	1,831	1,869	1,872	1,872	1,872
Spain	8,454	9,670	9,983	9,984	9,984	9,984
United Kingdom	10,645	10,620	10,644	10,580	10,565	10,565
EUROPEAN UNION	79,364	82,443	83,783	82,928	83,535	83,235
Poland	5,450	6,100	6,500	6,700	6,800	6,800
Romania	5,450	3,300	3,650	4,600	5,100	5,100
EASTERN EUROPE	10,900	9,400	10,150	11,300	11,900	11,900
Russia	40,300	37,400	33,720	32,000	31,500	31,500
Ukraine	11,766	10,145	9,500	9,000	9,000	9,000
FORMER SOVIET UNION	52,066	47,545	43,220	41,000	40,500	40,500
Turkey	8,100	7,900	8,000	8,100	8,150	8,150
MIDDLE EAST	8,100	7,900	8,000	8,100	8,150	8,150
China	235,960	295,800	335,340	360,000	385,000	385,000
Hong Kong	23	18	21	22	24	23
Japan	43,252	43,047	42,167	42,760	42,500	43,200
Korea, Republic of	8,196	8,094	8,317	8,565	8,770	8,770
Taiwan	5,372	5,673	6,237	6,400	6,700	6,700
Thailand	7,336	7,530	7,700	8,100	8,600	8,900
ASIA	300,139	360,162	399,782	425,847	451,594	452,593
TOTAL 5/	568,934	633,035	674,056	701,541	727,074	733,838

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Estimate. 3/ Forecast August 1996. 4/ Forecast March 1997. 5/ Total includes 28 countries

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World Horticultural Trade and U.S. Export Opportunities
This monthly publication provides information on the world situation and outlook for horticultural products. It covers export competition, foreign market import potential, trade policy developments, and export opportunities for U.S. products.

Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade
This monthly publication provides data and analysis on U.S. and world production, supply, use, and trade for a variety of oilseeds and products. It also covers prices and export markets.

U.S. Planting Seed Trade
This report, issued 13 times a year, provides information on U.S. trade for planting seeds. It also covers trade policy developments and export markets.

Sugar: World Markets and Trade
This semi-annual publication provides information on world production, supply, and demand for sugar. It includes in-depth special country features. The November issue presents the honey situation and outlook in selected countries.

Tobacco: World Markets and Trade
This monthly report provides information on U.S. and world production, supply, demand, and trade for tobacco. It covers crop estimates, trade policy developments, and export markets. The March issue contains complete U.S. tobacco trade data for the preceding calendar year.

World Agricultural Production
This monthly report provides information on U.S. and world production of major agricultural products, including crop and livestock estimates, weather and production briefs, and special articles on important trade topics.

Wood Products: International Trade and Foreign Markets
This report, issued five times a year, provides information on production, trade, supply, and demand for wood products around the world. It highlights trade policy developments, export statistics, and market information of interest to U.S. exporters.

Monthly Summary of Export Credit Guarantee Program Activity
This report shows fiscal-year commitment figures for the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102), Intermediate Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103), and Supplier Credit Guarantee Program.

U.S. Export Sales
This weekly report is based on information from private exporters. Outstanding export sales and other data give a snapshot view of the current contracting scene. All countries with outstanding sales or accumulated exports are included for all wheat, each class of wheat, wheat products, corn, soybeans, soybean cake and meal, American pima cotton, all upland cotton, whole cattle hides, and wet blues.

***AgExporter* Magazine**
This monthly magazine for businesses selling agricultural products abroad provides tips on exporting, descriptions of markets with significant sales potential, and information on export assistance available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The magazine's audience includes U.S. agricultural producers, processors, exporters, trade organizations, state departments of agriculture, and others interested in the export scene.

Food and Agriculture Directory
This publication features listings of federal and state agencies, trade associations, and a host of other organizations that can help U.S. enterprises penetrate foreign markets. It includes contact phone and fax numbers. ■

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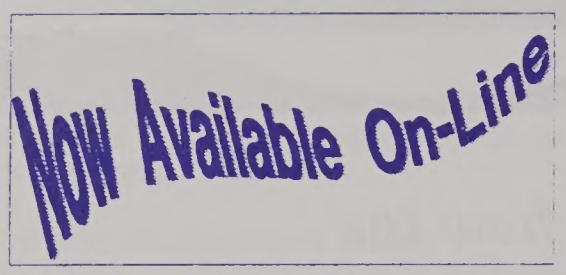

Summaries and selected tables from many Foreign Agricultural Service world market and trade reports are available electronically. The reports are U.S. Export Sales (available electronically after 8:30 a.m. on release day); Grain: World Markets and Trade, Cotton: World Markets and Trade, Oilseeds: World Markets and Trade, World Agricultural Production, and Tobacco: World Markets and Trade (all available electronically after 3:30 p.m. Washington D.C. time on release day) as well as World Horticultural Trade and U.S. Export Opportunities; Sugar: World Markets and Trade; Tropical Products: World Markets and Trade, Livestock and Poultry: World Markets and Trade and U.S. Planting Seed Trade Exports (available within a week after release.)

The reports are available electronically on the FAS home page (http://www.fas.usda.gov)and remain on line until the next report in the series is issued. Reports are also available from the Economic Bulletin Board at Stat-USA, on the same schedule. For more information, you may call (202) 482-1986 (Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. EST).

For more information on the FAS home page, contact Glenn Kaup, tel. (202) 720-3329; fax. (202) 720-3229; or e-mail kaup@fas.usda.gov